MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
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# The Middlebury Campus

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## Angels' Memory Shines in Standout Sophomore

By Mallika Rao
*Staff Writer*

The Angels Award — given annually to a sophomore woman of color who in her first year at Middlebury excelled socially and academically while exemplifying strong leadership qualities — was awarded this year to Dena Simmons '05. The award is given in remembrance of the Class of 2003's four "angels," Anisa Gamble, Tiffany Holmes, Maika Prewitt and Iniko Johnson, who tragically lost their lives in a car accident during their first year.

The award ceremony took place this past Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Château Grand Salon. It was a brief but moving gesture to the memory of the four angels. Friends, professors and staff members shared anecdotes detailing the girls' boundless energy and warmth. Hearing people remember actual words said by the girls was a testament to their extraordinary nature. "You walk by us and don't say hi, we'll kick your butt," Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity and Associate Professor of German Roman Graf recalled the girls saying.

Catharine Wright, visiting lecturer in writing and Posse mentor, and Barbara Ganley, lecturer and tutor-in-writing, spoke of having Prewitt and Johnson in class. Both described situations in which the girls, in a seamless role reversal, managed to teach their own professors. Mary Ellen Bertolini, director of academic support and lecturer, attributes the existence of her present course, "Writing to Heal," to her own need for closure after the accident. "In a very real sense, my students are being affected by their lives right now," she confided.

Julia Randall

*Dena Simmons '05 (center) receives this year's Angels Award Saturday afternoon in the company of nominees Ryan Dunn-Komeh '05 and Christina Tolbert '05.*

This year's ceremony holds special significance, as it would have been the angels' graduating year. Naima Gregory '03, a classmate and friend of the four girls, spearheaded the organization of the events, with the help of Associate Dean of Student Affairs Marichal Gentry and Assistant in Academic Administration Jessa Karki. Gregory's persistence in securing the presence of the angels' family members was just one of the many factors ensuring the palpable intimacy of the tribute. "I've been very struck by what this must mean for friends of the girls and this class," confessed Wright.

The weekend began with a student-led Performing Arts Tribute

*(see Woman, page 4)*

## *Military Deployment Felt in College Community*

By Leyla Kattan
*Staff Writer*

Middlebury College community members with relatives in the military gathered Friday for a non-political discussion revolving around the possible war in Iraq and how best to deal with ramifications of personnel buildup in the Persian Gulf.

Organized by the Office of the Chaplain and the Department of Human Resources, a small group of people attended the event to share their stories and offer support. Seated in a large circle, those in attendance spoke of any effects they were experiencing as a result of the military escalation.

The meeting offered individuals the chance to share their concerns and receive support and advice. Conversation focused on the difficulties families experience while coping with the emotional burdens of relatives on active duty and the loss of the primary bread-winner.

College Chaplain Laurel Jordan said, "The meeting was deliberately not about politics, but about personal connections." Benjamin Morris '03 added it is important to emphasize "the mere fact that an individual has accepted the duty to serve his or her country in no way allows one to draw conclusions about this individual's motivation to do so."

The aim was to bring together members of the small military community at Middlebury College and to help them establish an informal organization in which they can discuss issues that deeply affect them.

## Double, Triple Majors on the Rise

### *Students Seek Competitive Edge in Struggling Job Market*

By Claire Bourne
*Associate Editor*

Faced with the tightest job market in over a decade and increasingly competitive graduate school applicant pools, Middlebury College students are looking for new ways to enhance their résumés. A strong grade point average, summer internships, jobs, extracurricular activities and volunteer work have traditionally provided a means to this end, however all these factors may no longer be enough to attract an employer or an admissions officer's attention.

For this reason, an increasing number of students are adding a second and, in some cases, a third major to their academic arsenals. As of last fall, 12 percent of students at the College who had declared majors were double majors. Include those pursuing a joint major, and the figure rises to just over 20 percent.

Between the 1991-1992 and 2001-2002 academic years, the student body grew by 8 percent, from 2,050 to 2,240, while the total number of majors declared by that student body shot up by 34 percent. These statistics, said Secretary of the College Eric Davis, are proof enough that a growing number of students are opting to officially specialize in more than one discipline. Fewer than half of the members of last year's graduating class left with a single major in one discipline. The rest sealed their Middlebury College careers with completion of a double, joint or interdisciplinary major.

For a small number of students like Heather Rankie '03, a double major is not enough. Rankie, slated to graduate this May after a standard four-year tenure at the College, is working towards a triple major in international studies, Spanish and film/video. She said she always intended to pursue international studies, but a first-year student seminar with Fletcher Professor of the Arts Ted Perry — Surrealism and Film — convinced her to declare a double major. A junior year in Chile provided her with nearly enough credits to fulfill requirements for the Spanish major, so upon her return to campus last fall, she declared one.

The upward trend in multiple majors at Middlebury is comparable to patterns at other institutions across the country. According to a Nov. 17, 2002 *New York Times* article, both Georgetown University and Washington University in St. Louis have witnessed notable increases in recent years.

Many double, joint and triple majors maintain that the flexibility to specialize in more than one subject is beneficial to their intellectual development. As multiple majors, they can explore the

*(see Multiple, page 3)*

## Middlebury Mourns Fred Rogers

By Josh Carson
*Staff Writer*

Last Thursday, we all lost a neighbor.

Fred Rogers, popularly known as "Mister Rogers", died of stomach cancer at his home in Pittsburgh, Pa., at the age of 74.

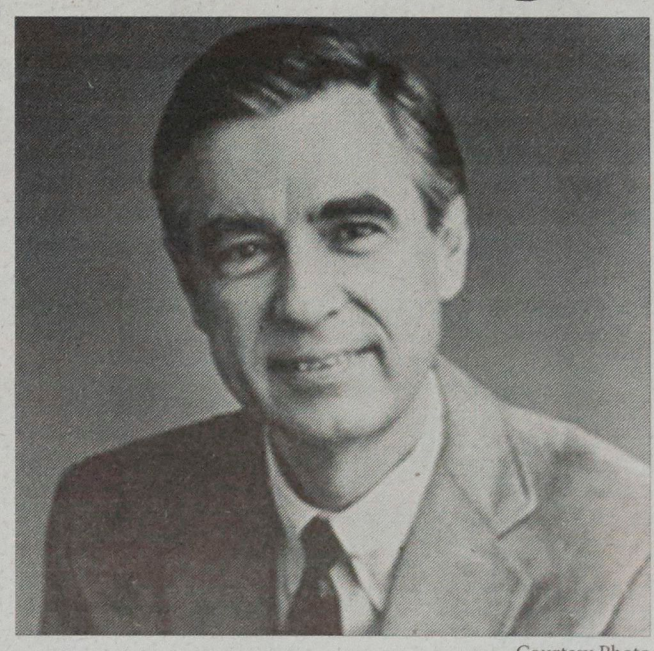
Ordained a Presbyterian minister, Rogers' mission was to work with children and families through mass media. The popular children's show, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," was the result.

He was a "very generous man — generous with wealth, knowledge and love," said Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemmons, a friend of Rogers who appeared on the show for 27 years as "Officer Clemmons."

"He was as kind [in person] as he appeared on television."

The television show began in the 1960's and changed very little from its original for-

*(see Favorite, page 3)*



Courtesy Photo

*Fred Rogers: a familiar face in children's television*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# COLLEGE shorts

**By Andrea Gissing**
*News Editor*

## E-mail Error Embarasses Cornell

Five-hundred-and-fifty high school students were given the gift of a second chance last Wednesday. Unfortunately, it was the result of an accidentally sent e-mail message from Cornell University's college admissions office and was quickly retracted. The office sent welcoming letters to 1,700 early-decision applicants, including 550 who had already been rejected in the December decision.

The university promptly followed-up with an e-mail admitting that a mistake had been made. The university offered its apologies "for any confusion and distress [the previous] message has caused." The letter said that the congratulatory e-mail was the result of a "systems coding error." Cornell officials also stated that the school had failed to meet its goal of treating all applicants "with sensitivity and respect."

According to college admissions officials, mistakes at admissions offices are not uncommon as many offices process thousands of applications within a few weeks. What makes this incident extraordinary is the number of students affected.

The Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Angela Griffin-Jones said she was notified of the error at 9 a.m. She said that the office had been behind on sending out the letters of congratulations. In the rush to send them out in a timely fashion, a clerical staff member entered the wrong data to download the names.

Griffin-Jones said that this is the first year that the Cornell admissions office has used internet capabilities so extensively in their admissions correspondence with students.

Source: *The New York Times*

## Winning World Trade Center Memorial Designed by U. Penn Faculty

The winners of the international competition for the new design of the World Trade Center in New York City are University of Pennsylvania architects Daniel Libeskind and Gary Hack. Libeskind is a Paul Philippe Cret Professor of Architecture as well as the principal architect of Studio Daniel Libeskind. Hack is the dean of the university's Graduate School of Fine Arts and the chairman of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission.

The plan they entered was selected out of 435 submissions because it was considered "visionary." It creates a "powerful and moving setting for a permanent memorial" while still being a feasible design to construct. The project concentrates on the symbolic space at Ground Zero, intending to represent the city's mourning for the victims and the area's rebirth. The plan includes a spire rising 1776 feet, which would make it the world's tallest building. Additionally, the buildings are arranged so that every year on Sept. 11 a sunbeam will illuminate the site from 8:46 a.m. to 10:38 a.m., the time frame from when the first plane hit to when the second tower fell.

The memorial's plan will be finalized on the anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks this year. It is predicted that the entire plan will take a decade to be constructed.

Source: U-Wire

## Victims of the Nightclub Fire Honored

Monday night, hundreds of people gathered to honor and pray for the victims of the Rhode Island nightclub fire that killed 97. The fire was ignited by pyrotechnics used by the band Great White during their performance at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, R.I., on Feb. 20.

The "Statewide Interfaith Memorial Service for the Families and Victims of the West Warwick Fire" was officiated by leaders from the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths.

Gov. Donald Carcieri also came to pay his respects. Carcieri was also praised for his handling of the tragedy during the service. "This is a deeply sorrowful time. We have suffered a great tragedy and the depth of that pain is shared by the whole state," he said.

Carcieri also praised the efforts of firefighters, rescue and medical workers, clergy and the community for their support. "We have seen our community unite like never before. This has been an entire state reaching out and embracing its own," he said.

There was a prayer vigil at the West Warwick Civic Center following the service.

Source: U-Wire

## *Quotes of the Week:*

*In actuality, the admissions committees on which we have served did not admit students unless we had complete confidence in their ability not only to survive but also to thrive at our respective institutions, and we believe Middlebury adheres to this standard as well.*

—Karen Guttentag, assistant dean of student affairs, and Marichal Gentry, associate dean of student affairs, responding to Amber Hillman's '05 column

*I have tremendous empathy for those who suffer from chronic pain and who feel they would benefit from medical marijuana. But I think it would be awkward to leagalize a substance that could still be the subject of prosecution by federal authorities.*

—Governor James Douglas '72 on the legalization of marijuana

# MiddBRIEFS

## Senior Class to Cast Vote on Ideas for Gifts

By Ian Fleishman
*Staff Writer*

The Senior Class Gift Committee is currently at work on this year's installment of a 20-year tradition of giving to Middlebury College.

Each year the senior class selects a gift to be given to the College. The gift must be self-sustaining and is intended to help relieve budget constraints. Past gifts have included trails and landscaping, scholarships and essential equipment such as printers.

An online poll for seniors is currently being held to decide this year's gift. Through this poll seniors may select from a list of previously proposed gifts such as the Angel's Award or a walkway from Old Chapel to the new library. Seniors may also add their own suggestions for gifts in the online referendum. The gift idea that receives the most votes will be selected for this year.

Monetary donations by seniors provide the funding for each year's gift, but all students who wish to donate may do so, regardless of their class. This year, fundraising for the gift begins in early April.

According to Kristie Gonzalez '02, Annual Giving Officer, "The senior class gift is the last opportunity as students, and the first opportunity as soon-to-be alumni, to give back to the College and to the students that will come after. It is a tradition and a way for a class to leave a legacy."

**Mongolian Gaming**

Vlad Lodoaba

*Children explore a different culture at the Middlebury Museum of Art's Mongolian exhibit.*

## College Employee Remembered Fondly

By Andrea Gissing
*News Editor*

Walter Van Price, a former employee of Middlebury College, passed away Sunday night at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington due to injuries he sustained in a car accident last December. Van worked in Dining Services as a sous chef from January 1996 to August 2002.

"Van was a wonderful man who cared deeply for his family and friends," said Peter Napolitano, director of dining services.

"He would volunteer his time and talents in the community by helping to organize cooking classes and workshops," Napolitano continued. "He would help our Middlebury students with special dietary needs and concerns. Van worked with the Middlebury Muslim students in setting up Hallal meals in order to observe religious preferences. He worked tirelessly with our students in planning special meals and events."

Van Price is survived by his wife, Rebecca, and their two children, Amber and Ian. He was 44 years old. Memorial services were held for him on Monday.

"Van will be missed by all his friends in dining services," said Napolitano.

He will be missed by the entire College community.

## Editor's Note

*The Middlebury Campus* highly regrets that the publication of Opinions submissions in the Feb. 26 issue has caused strain among members of the College community, particularly minority students. Though unintended, the Editorial Board extends its sincere apologies for the hurt created.

The editors of *The Campus* wish to see the Opinions pages act as a forum for respectful dialogue and debate on significant issues.

The views and perspectives expressed on the Opinions pages are not those of *The Middlebury Campus* newspaper.

# Students Take Health Into Their Own Hands

By Thomas McCann
*Staff Writer*

The newly created Student Health Liaison Program, led by Director of Health and Wellness Education Yonna McShane, is revolutionizing the way students at Middlebury address health issues.

The program gives students the opportunity to discuss health concerns with knowledgable peers, rather than with an adult who may not relate to the students' situation. According to Mary McDonald '03, one of the core members of the program, the liaisons function as "intermediaries between students and the health center," something that perhaps Middlebury has been needed in recent years.

With various volunteers working for the program through the commons system and campus wide, the benefits are already filtering through to the students.

McShane was quick to acknowledge the contributions of the Student Liaison program toward the new Ross fitness facility. "This was totally a Student Health Liaison initiative to help improve and expand the use of the facility," she said. New equipment and educational posters helped develop this new facility while other initiatives have blossomed elsewhere on campus.

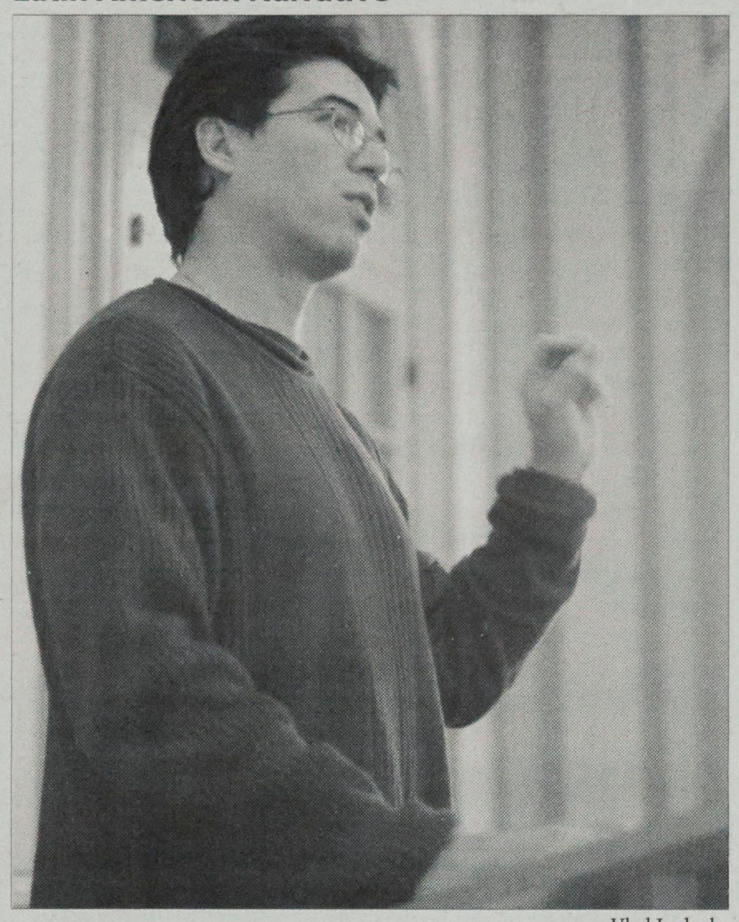
These initiatives, which include a discussion for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a panel discussion on sexual assault and workshops focusing on stress reduction, eating disorders and boosting your metabolism, have all occurred since the start of the year.

For the spring, McShane promises workshops on CPR, speakers on topics such as sleep deprivation and violence against women as well as colorful poster campaigns, such as those on sexually transmitted disease awarness that have appeared in Gifford and Forest halls.

The liaisons' dedication and commitment to the project demonstrates how important it is to them. Julia Assael '03 stated that "the Middlebury campus

*(see Peers, page 4)*

**Latin American Narrative**



Vlad Lodoaba

*Novelist and Cornell University Professor Edmundo Paz Soldán speaks to students at the Château about Latin American narrative.*

# *Favorite Neighbor Delivered College Commencement Address to Class of 2001*

*(continued from page 1)*

mat by 2001 when the last original episode aired.

Rogers resisted the movement towards animation and special effects. Instead, he relied on his gentle and soothing demeanor to educate children about leading a good life.

Each of the 900 episodes opened with Mister Rogers entering his living room and changing from his sport jacket and loafers to a cardigan and sneakers.

He then looked directly into the camera and spoke about an important theme for the day, always emphasizing the self-worth of children.

> Rogers resisted the movement towards animation and special effects. Instead, he relied on his gentle and soothing demeanor to educate children about leading a good life.

A segment of each show took place in the "Neighborhood of Make-Believe," where puppets played out the inner drama of early childhood problems.

Problems were always solved by teaching children to manage frustration and use compassion and understanding.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" is the longest running television series ever to air on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Last year, President George W. Bush honored Rogers with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor available, in recognition of his commitment to children and his long public television career.

In May 2001 Rogers delivered Middlebury's Commencement address and received an honorary doctorate degree from the College.

At the beginning of his address, everyone joined him to sing "It's A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," the theme song to "Mister Roger's Neighborhood."

In his speech, he emphasized the importance of caring for others, appreciating the support you have received and living life enthusiastically.

In life, "what really maters is helping others win, too, even if it means slowing down and changing our course now and then," Rogers told the graduating class.

"Such honest enthusiastic living of our lives — no matter what our talents may be — can deeply affect others!"

Rogers lived by his words by putting people first. Members of the College community and the millions of children he influenced will not forget Mister Rogers' compassionate message and gentle manner.

# Multiple Majors Reflect National Trend

*(continued from page 1)*

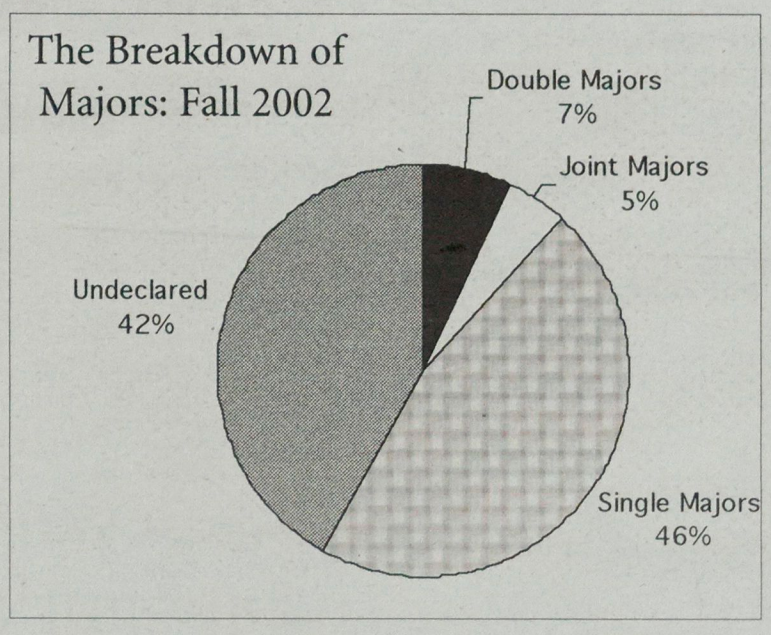
depths of two or more disciplines rather than acquire strong knowledge of one subject and only surface knowledge of several others. However, some Middlebury College educators disagree.

The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) and the Student Educational Affairs Committee (SEAC) discussed last Thursday whether or not the College should limit students to one major. Dean of the Faculty Robert Schine, who sits on the EAC, said the dialogue was in its nascent stage. "The conversation regarding the role of the double, joint and multiple majors and minors at Middlebury is ongoing," said Meaghan McCormick '03, director of academic affairs for the Student Government Association. "Faculty and administration will continue to discuss this phenomenon amongst themselves and most importantly with students."

The reasons for this debate are numerous. Schine emphasized the importance of breadth in a liberal arts education. "There is the danger that students, by collecting a number of majors, will deprive themselves of free exploration," he said.

Fulton Professor of American Literature Stephen Donadio said he worried about a "reduction of intellectual inquiry" should students use the majority of the 36 credits required for graduation to fulfill prerequisites for two or more majors.

Rankie said that because her three majors encompassed a variety of disciplines she did not consider them to be limiting her studies at the College. "How could I complain about being fortunate enough to intensely pursue three of my academic passions?" she asked.




Both Schine and Donadio expressed concern that a lot of students declare multiple majors in an effort to boost their credentials. "I think it has a lot to do with making oneself more attractive as a candidate for the next stage," Donadio pointed out. "It reflects great anxiety about what jobs are available and what the future holds."

Schine said that working towards a double, joint or triple major to boost qualifications would be "a sad development."

The concern, said Davis, is that in worrying about their resumés, some multiple majors might "lose the opportunity to be exposed to areas that might be beneficial later in life."

The EAC will also be discussing the possibility of capping the number of Advanced Placement (AP) credits each student is allowed to use towards graduation from Middlebury. Such a move might reduce the number of multiple majors at the College, since many of those signing up to specialize in more than one field matriculate with myriad AP credits, many of which end up fulfilling distribution requirements. Instead of spending time satisfying such requirements, these AP-equipped students are able to use the spare class time towards completing a second major.

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Yes. If you are about to graduate (or have recently graduated) timing is critical to maximizing the amount that you can save with consolidation. If you wait too long to apply for consolidation, you might miss out on the opportunity to reduce the interest rate on all your loans by 0.60%.

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There are no fees or credit checks, nor is there any penalty for early repayment of your consolidation loan. Note however, that you can only consolidate once and consolidation can affect certain deferment and cancellation benefits associated with loans.

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While visiting the paper online, be sure and sign up for the email edition. It's the best way to stay informed beyond graduation, and it's free.

STUDENT LOAN CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM

# Woman of Color Carries on Angels' Legacy Through Achievement

*(continued from page 1)*

Friday night at the Center for the Arts.

It lasted two hours and featured student performances dedicated to the four angels.

Most of the performers had not known the angels, but relied on the strength and affection behind other peoples' memories of the girls to deliver a compelling performance.

> This year's ceremony holds special significance, as it would have been the angels' graduating year.

The heart of the weekend, Saturday's award ceremony, was followed with a celebratory brunch Sunday morning in the Redfield Proctor lounge.

The four nominees from the Class of 2005 were Ryan Dunn-Komeh, Christina Tolbert, Tina Velez and Dena Simmons.

An impressive list of activities, achievements and overall qualities was reeled off for each nominee, underscoring how difficult the task of choosing an individual winner must have been. Janine Knight '03, one of the award organizers and president of Middlebury's popular dance troupe, Riddim, graciously introduced Simmons, this year's recipient, as the "epitome of time management."

Nominees were elicited from a campus-wide e-mail issued the prior weekend. The committee, each year consisting of a Riddim member (Knight), a member of the African American Alliance (AAA) (Kiki Taylor '03), a Commons Resident Advisor (Lisa Stifler '02) and a member of the Dean of Student Affairs Office (Gentry), considers academic and extracurricular achievement.

Because of the element of remembrance particular to this award, the girl chosen must also carry on the memory of the angels by embodying their spirit. "We must not only remember them, but walk in their footsteps," Gregory asserted.

Simmons boasts a string of achievements as varied as it is long.

She co-founded the group Mix, along with fellow nominees Tolbert and Velez.

Mix dedicates itself to spreading diversity awareness throughout Vermont elementary schools.

Simmons also coaches a youth soccer team. She is a peer writing tutor, a resident advisor and a member of the Middlebury College Activities Board, Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribena and the Foundation for Excellent Schools.

She is an active participant in the International Students Organization, AAA and Pan-Caribbean Students Organization events. This award comes on the heels of her Outstanding First-Year Award, which she received last year.

She, along with all the other nominees, is able to maintain a high grade point average despite numerous extra-curricular commitments.

The ceremony concluded with a surprise presentation given to Gregory by Senior Advisor for Institutional Diversity Leroy Nesbitt.

He thanked her for her persistence and passion in planning the weekend. He then presented a plaque donated by the Office of Institutional Diversity for the names of past and future Angel Award winners.

The names of the two past recipients, Lollie Perez '03 and Crystal Belle '04, join Simmons in being the first on the plaque. The plaque will be hung in PALANA House, the multicultural house on campus.

This year marks an important transitional phase in the existence of the award.

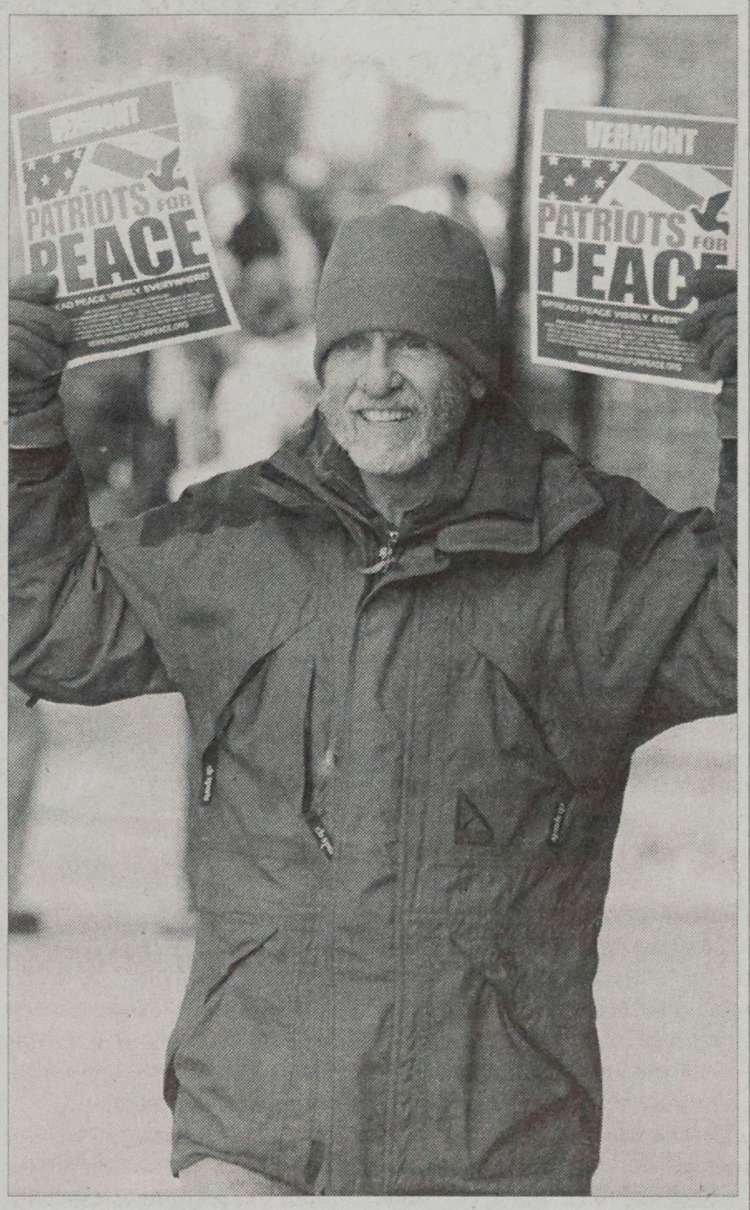
While this award has previously been more of a memorial event, with the graduation of the Class of 2003, it evolves into an established honor for each new recipient.

There is a desire for the memory of the angels to translate into a focus on the future women of color on campus.

Those who attended any or all of the events expressed the absolute need for this sort of award at Middlebury.

Citing the racially divisive events that have occurred on campus, many of those concerned with the award felt it could act as a much-needed encouragement to people of color on campus.

## Posing for Peace




Vlad Lodoaba

**Despite his smiles,** *this demonstrator is serious in his desire to see world peace become a reality. Protesters gathered again last Saturday in the town of Middlebury to demonstrate against a possible war in Iraq.*

# Student Peers Promote Healthy Campus Living

*(continued from page 3)*

needed students who were aware of the health issues that surrounded them, and I wanted to become a part of that." She also voiced the purpose of the entire program when she declared, "I am there for anyone who has questions or concerns regarding any type of health issues." Fellow volunteer Eric Blacher '05 revealed that "the art of healing is my greatest passion and the Health Liaison position is one avenue that I can take to do my part for the College community."

Although the program is still young, its future looks bright. The Health Fair scheduled for March 17 will provide an opportunity for the members of the Student Health Liaison Program to be seen and heard by the community. Heightening visibility on campus will be a priority for the volunteers.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

| Date | Time | Incident | Category | Location | Disposition |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2/17/03 | 6:00 a.m. | Theft | College Furniture | LaForce | No Suspects |
| 2/20/03 | 1:05 a.m. | Drug Violation | Marijuana/ Pipe | Davis | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 2/20/03 | 10:49 p.m. | Drug Violation | Marijuana | Stewart | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 2/21/03 | 9:28 p.m. | Vandalism | Broken Door Window | Proctor | No Suspects |
| 2/23/03 | 4:25 a.m. | Vandalism | Broken Window | Davis | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 2/23/03 | 1:00 a.m. | Theft | Computer Part | Starr Library | Open |
| 3/1/03 | 10:28 p.m. | Vandalism | Ceiling Tiles | Gifford | Referred to Commons Dean |

# Two Brothers and Otter Creek Join Forces to Feed the Needy

By Greg Duggan
*Staff Writer*

Two Brothers Tavern, which opened for business in Middlebury just four and a half months ago, has decided to give something back to the community. Teaming up with Otter Creek Brewery, an older Middlebury business, Two Brothers will host a fundraiser for the Addison County Food Shelf this week.

A section of the Addison County Community Action Group (ACCAG), the Food Shelf helps to provide nourishment to impoverished citizens of Addison County.

Jeanne Montross, the executive director of ACCAG, explained in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, "There are a lot of people who don't have enough money to pay their bills and buy food."

The Food Shelf aids "people who are homeless and have nothing." Montross said the Food Shelf is "pretty busy year round," and has seen even more action this year and this winter, largely, she said, as a result of higher fuel prices and increased unemployment.

On average, the Food Shelf serves about 4,000 people each year.

Two Brothers Tavern has strong roots in the Middlebury area. Holmes and Beal Jacobs, the two owners, as well as floor manager Megan Brady, grew up in the community.

When the three sat down to plan a fundraiser, Brady said they "wanted to do something that was a little bit more local, versus giving to something a bit broader like the United Way or the Red Cross.

We definitely wanted to do something that was Middlebury oriented." Originally thinking of donating to something in the educational field, Two Brothers eventually decided upon the Food Shelf after listening to the opinions of friends who work in social services. Brady said their "conclusion was pretty much unanimous that, first and foremost, you need food in order to get by.

> Every single can or box of food that we get is important, and when people do food collections like this as fundraisers, they're actually helping to prevent homelessness.
>
> — Jeanne Montross, executive director of the Addison County Community Action Group (ACCAG)

We thought the food shelter was perfect because we were really interested in helping people that couldn't help themselves at this time of year."

A friendship had grown between Two Brothers and Otter Creek Brewery, so the businesses decided to work together on the fundraiser. Brady said Morgan Wolaver, the president of Otter Creek, has "a very charitable [personality]," so the idea for the fundraiser "just sort of evolved naturally over many conversations with him."

Wolaver told *The Campus* that the recommendation for the fundraiser "really made sense to us.

It had to do with providing needy people with food, which you have to have to survive."

After settling the matter, Brady said, "We tried to put our heads together and figure out, between our two products and our establishments, the best way to raise money in a week's time."

They decided to hold a raffle, which will take place on Friday, March 7, at Two Brothers Tavern. Wolaver and the Jacobs brothers will host the raffle and give away a pair of skis, two $50 gift certificates to Two Brothers, a Black Diamond fleece with the Otter Creek logo and T-shirts.

Raffle tickets will be on sale this week at the Tavern and the brewery for $3 each, or two for $5. In addition to the raffle, patrons at Two Brothers can order a pint of Otter Creek or Wolaver Ale, served in custom pint glasses that will be theirs to keep, courtesy of Otter Creek Brewery.

Two Brothers will donate the proceeds of these sales to the Food Shelf. In addition, anyone who brings a non-perishable food item will receive 25 percent off the price of his or her meal.

A representative from the Food Shelf will be at the raffle on Friday to accept the money raised and food collected during the week.

Fundraisers for the Food Shelf take place throughout the year and donations come from various sources, but they are typically received around the holidays.

At this time of year a fundraiser is, in Montross' words, "especially welcome."

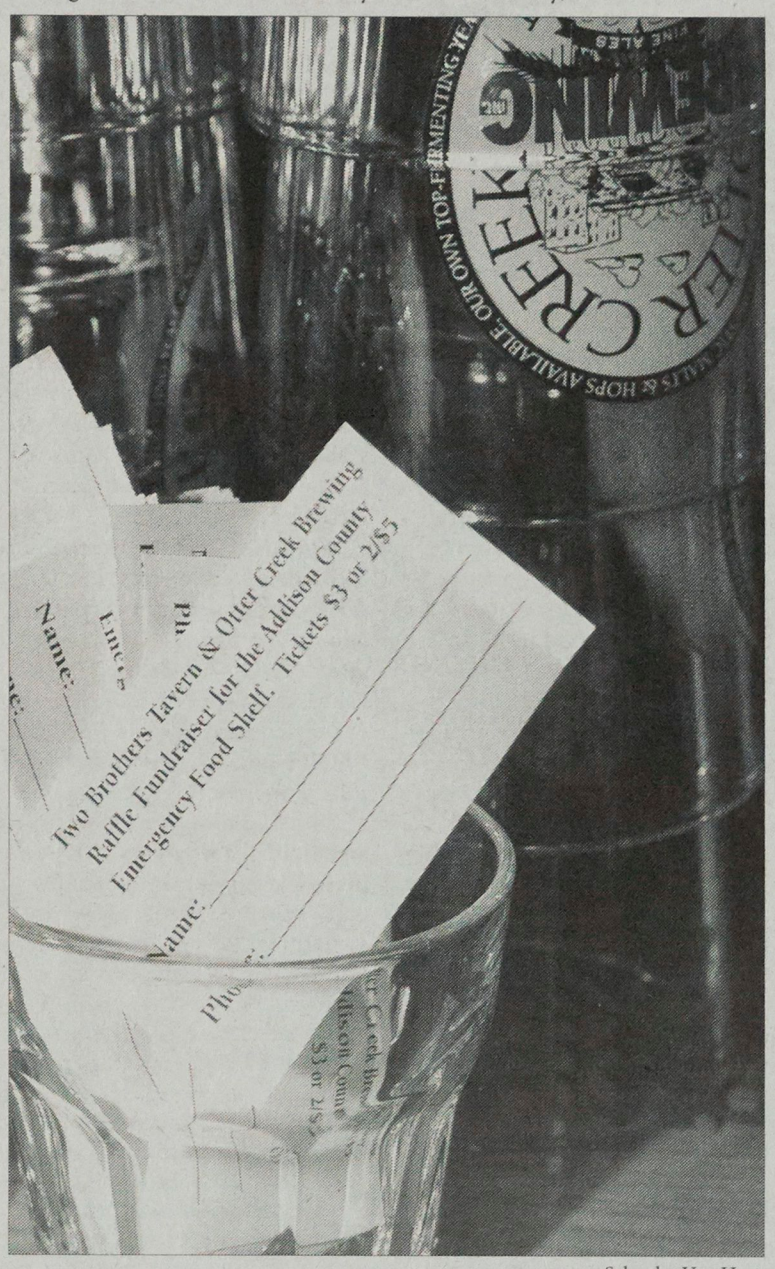
Praising Two Brothers and Otter Creek, Montross said, "Every single can or box of food that we get is important, and when people do food collections like this as fundraisers, they're actually helping to prevent homelessness."

When asked about goals for the fundraiser, Brady stressed the difficulty in predicting any results, particularly because this will be Two Brothers' first fundraiser.

She explained, "We're just hoping that people come out and rally for this and get really excited about it.

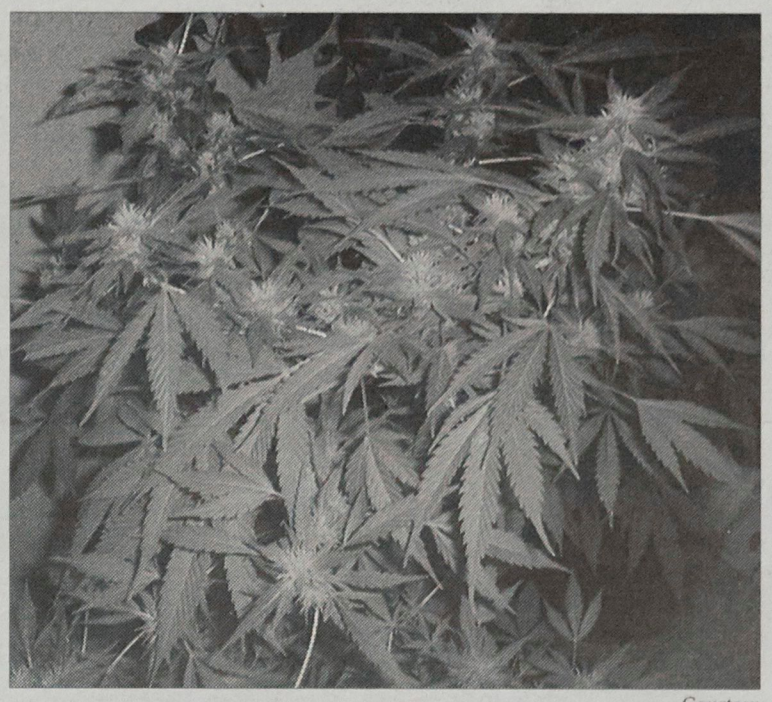
We recognize that we're perhaps holding it at a tough time of year, but that was part of the incentive for us, to hold it at a time when people can't grow their own food."

Wolaver emphasized "bringing awareness of the food shelter to the community" as one of the goals.


Two Brothers Tavern & Otter Creek Brewing
Raffle Fundraiser for the Addison County
Emergency Food Shelf. Tickets $3 or 2/$5
Name:
Name:

Schuyler Van Horn

*Two Brothers Tavern and Otter Creek Brewery Fundraiser for the Food Shelf in Middlebury*



Courtesy

*Governor James Douglas has officially announced his opposition to the use of medicinal marajuana*

# Governor Douglas Opposes Medical Marijuana

By Elizabeth Braunstein
*Staff Writer*

On Feb. 26, Gov. James Douglas '72 announced his opposition to legalizing marijuana for medical purposes. Douglas said, "I have tremendous empathy for those who suffer from chronic pain and who feel they would benefit from medical marijuana. But I think it would be awkward to legalize a substance that could still be the subject of prosecution by federal authorities." The police and the Vermont attorney general's office have also expressed their disagreement with and concerns over the bill, which could benefit chronically ill patients suffering from diseases like AIDS, cancer and Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

The Senate medical marijuana bill has been passed by the Health and Welfare Committee as well as the Judiciary Committee, and will move to the Finance Committee shortly. The bill is largely based on the work of a task force of 13 people who spent the summer and fall of 2002 listening to testimony and looking at the processes and circumstances of the eight other states (Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Maine, Nevada, Oregon and Washington) that have enacted such a law. The House Bill, however, has moved more slowly through the committees, although such a bill was passed last session. The House and Senate bills are similar and outline the terms, usage and limitations of medical marijuana.

> I'm disappointed that fear of retribution from the federal government is driving Governor Douglas' opinion as opposed to compassion for chronically ill people who need this drug.
>
> — Katherine Perena, co-chair of HIV Positive Public Policy Project

State Representative Betty Nuovo, D-Middlebury, responded to the Governor's statement, saying, "I think medical marijuana should be allowed under certain restrictions and safeguards. The federal government can arrest anyone who uses marijuana whether or not it is for medical use. The whole purpose of doing these bills is to get the federal government to allow it."

Katherine Perena, co-chair of the HIV Positive Public Policy Project, and member of the Senate taskforce, said, "I'm disappointed that fear of retribution from the federal government is driving Gov. Douglas' opinion as opposed to compassion for chronically ill people who experience severe pain and need this drug." She went on to say that the federal government has yet to arrest any patient or doctor for using or prescribing marijuana for medical purposes and that the bill itself is very specific in its conditions. Perena also noted that the evidence and experience from the eight other states demonstrates that such a law does not contribute to recreational marijuana use, a concern of many who oppose the bill.

"I'm hopeful that there will be enough support and that Gov. Douglas will change his mind and look at other states' examples. There's no need to reinvent the wheel. We're not the first state taking the first step here," said Kendall Farrell, Executive Director of Vermont Community for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES), an organization whose goal is to "improve the quality of life, create compassionate communities, and prevent the spread of HIV by working with people affected by HIV/AIDS as catalysts for social and individual change."

Although Douglas issued a statement of opposition, he refused to comment on whether or not he would veto a bill if it were passed by the legislature. His options would be to approve it, veto it or let it sit for five days until it automatically became a law.

# 2003 Vermont Flower Show Blooms in Burlington

## *'Sex in the Garden' Talk Among Many Workshops to Energize Event, Create Buzz*

By Kelsey Rinehart
*Local News Editor*

From Feb. 28 to March 2, thousands of flower fans flocked to the Sheraton Conference Center in Burlington for the annual Vermont Flower Show. The Vermont Association of Professional Horticulturists and the University of Vermont (UVM) sponsored the show, which was rated one of Vermont's top 10 winter events by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. The theme for 2003 was "Over the River and Through the Woods." The show featured educational seminars, flower displays with a model train layout, a professional floral competition including the floral artwork category, both non-profit and commercial exhibitors, children's activities and other sights and diversions.

One of the featured speakers was Carol Ann Margolis, a teacher, museum educator, horticulture lecturer at UVM and the University of North Carolina and consultant to the National Gardening Association. Margolis has horticulture in her blood, and has been in love with plants all her life. "I still remember growing a bean (red scarlet runner bean) up to the second floor window of my house. Unlike Jack, I never climbed it, but was amazed how it grew. I also had the experience of having a pumpkin seed grow out of a bathroom sink. It happened because we washed and cleaned pumpkin seeds before roasting them in the oven. I was happy since my mom helped me pull the seedling out and transplant it into soil. No pumpkins grew, but I guess it was the beginnings of my horticultural career."

She graduated from UVM with a double major in botany and plant and soil science and received her Master of Science from Michigan State University. She has spread her enthusiasm for the world of flowers and insects to eager listeners at libraries, schools, daycare centers and garden clubs. On her invitation to speak at the 2002 Vermont Flower Show, Margolis said, "I was delighted to do a talk on butterflies and blooms since I was involved in creating a live, outdoor, 600-square-foot native butterfly house at the Virginia Living Museum. Monarch butterflies are my specialty."

> I think they all had fun learning about sex in the garden. I did keep it mostly G-rated. "Garden-rated" is what I told them!
>
> —Carol Ann Margolis, featured speaker of the 2003 Vermont Flower Show

This year, Margolis chose a different path. "I decided it would be fun to do a talk for adults on 'Sex in the Garden.' I dressed in a full bee costume with antennas on my head. I brought slides, puppets and additional bee costumes to make the presentation come alive," she said. She described "the vectors of pollination: wind, water, and the most common, animal," the "results of floral sex (fruits are the mature ovaries and the fertilized eggs become seeds)," and the "common Vermont pollinators: bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, beetles, flies (no fruit bats here)." Margolis also tried to convey the importance and fragility of the balance between pollinators and plants.

"I encouraged the audience to plant a pollinator garden since many pollinators' habitat has been destroyed for shopping malls and new homes. It is said that one out of every four honey bee colonies has died since 1990. In many cases, this is due to pesticides, disease, loss of habitat, etc." she noted.

Margolis said, "I think they all had fun learning about sex in the garden. I did keep it mostly G-rated. Garden-rated is what I told them!" She recalled one of the highlights: "You should have seen the six-foot guy I chose to dress in a bee costume on Sunday and help me pollinate some flowers. It was great fun."

Sandy Burkholder, who runs the Blossom Basket, a flower and gift shop in Middlebury, said, "I think it's a great show for this area. We're lucky that we have people that are willing to put the effort forward. I'd love to see more people involved with it. I think it's a wonderful opportunity for people to get involved with something that's so worthwhile." Burkholder entered a floral design piece in the show's competition. "The design thing is a great experience because I think you learn from doing it, whether you win or not. It's an exciting feature," she said.

Thirty presentations scheduled throughout the weekend gave curious visitors and aspiring gardeners and horticulturists a diversion from the exhibits themselves. In addition to "Sex and the Garden," seminars such as "Vermont's Most Wanted Invasive Plants and What We Can Do About Them," "Extending the Day: A Guide to Gaining Time by Lighting the Landscape," "Gardening with Wildlife," "Growing the Best Vegetable Garden Ever," "Growing Fruits Successfully" and "Bonsai" intrigued listeners.

Words of wisdom were given by landscape designers, horticulturists, professors, private nursery and garden owners and representatives from the Nature Conservancy, the Vermont Departments of Agriculture and of Fish and Wildlife and the Woodstock Historical Society.

Both Burkholder and Margolis are excited about the 2004 Vermont Flower Show. "Hopefully it will continue and grow into something even bigger and better," Burkholder remarked. "The Vermont Flower Show is a wonderful event that allows everyone (usually 8,000 people enjoy the three-day show) to share their passion for gardening. Kudos to the VAPH for putting it on each year! Next year, I am hoping to do a family program with the topic 'Garbage Can Horticulture' – growing things from your dinner table – oranges, papayas, pineapples etc."

Courtesy

*Carol Ann Margolis, in appropriate bumblebee attire and ready for her talk, "Sex and the Garden," at the 2003 Vermont Flower Show.*

# ECOLOGIA: Reaching Out With Environmentalism

By Pete Faroni
*Staff Writer*

Vermont, home to several prominent civil and political advocacy groups, is also the home of Ecologists Linked for Organizing Grassroots Initiatives and Action (ECOLOGIA), an international environmental organization based in Middlebury. *The Middlebury Campus* recently caught up with Carolyn Schmidt, co-founder and Board Secretary of ECOLOGIA.

In the ECOLOGIA office, a poster hangs on the door that bears a saying of Eugene Debs: "While there is a lower class, I am in it." ECOLOGIA works to help this lower class and create a global civil society through its grassroots initiatives. "You can't just look at yourself as removed from the struggles of the world," Schmidt remarked.

***The Campus***: How did ECOLOGIA get started?

ECOLOGIA: ECOLOGIA was started in 1989, by my husband Randy Kritkausky and me, as a response to going to the Soviet Union. [It was] coming out of the Cold War times and seeing everything opening up, finding so many points of connection and feeling that there had been many barriers between people: fear, distrust and xenophobia. It's very exciting to think that you're in a position, despite historical chance, to bridge over some of those gaps. So we connected with people from the Soviet Union on a lot of different dimensions, especially on environmental concerns. We were involved with our own environmental issues in northeastern Pennsylvania–(where we lived at the time)–and the people of the Soviet Union had horrendous environmental problems. A lot of the problems were related to the fact that, being in a centralized system, local people had no say in what environmental degradation was done to their land. So one thing led to another, and we ended up forming a non-governmental organization (NGO), ECOLOGIA.

***The Campus:*** Is there any relationship between Middlebury College and ECOLOGIA?

ECOLOGIA: The Middlebury connection comes in through our daughter, Laurel Kritkausky '99, who was 12 when we went to the Soviet Union for the first time. It was a life-changing experience for all three of us. She ended up going to Middlebury, and after she graduated, she worked for us for four years. She was the director of the Nuclear Communities in Transition Program. She just recently resigned, wanting to do something else after having put four years into this intensive work, mainly in Russia.

***The Campus***: Is your daughter's attendance at the College the reason that your organization is now based out of Middlebury?

ECOLOGIA: In the year 2000, we moved ourselves and ECOLOGIA's U.S. headquarters from northeastern Pennsylvania to Middlebury. This decision was certainly influenced by the fact that when we came up to visit our daughter, we began to appreciate more and more the human resources, the culture and the politics of Vermont and the Champlain Valley. The idea of living and working in a personally and professionally supportive climate was very appealing.

***The Campus***: Is having the College in your backyard been an asset in your work?

ECOLOGIA: There's a whole appreciation and incorporation of diversity in Vermont, and we feel that, for a lot of reasons, it's not just supportive for us, but it's also a wonderful area to bring international visitors. There's a whole supportive network of students, professors, staff — the whole institutional orientation of Middlebury as a liberal arts college with an international focus is a terrific source of a lot of support. We have enjoyed getting to know and working with a lot of different people at Middlebury. In particular, Professors David Rosenberg and John Isham, and organizations such as the Rohatyn Center — they've been very interested to work with us, interested in what we have and in what we're doing, [which is] real-world, grounded roots action.

***The Campus***: How has ECOLOGIA gotten involved with environmental work in other countries?

ECOLOGIA: A government is composed of people. We work on a variety of levels internationally, but we do as much as we can to link them. We work to locate individual projects done by community groups in the fields of environment and sustainable development. We have a real world connection with small-scale community groups; they want money so they can buy shovels so they can plant trees. In order to get the project done, people in local government and business leaders work together with them. This has a long-term effect of showing cooperation, but also showing the government that citizen groups can be involved, and that they have a lot to offer. This will open the government officials to more cooperation with citizens group in the future. It will also give the citizens more confidence to get involved.

One of the first things we did was to buy a hand-held radiation detector. A lot of the stuff that we took into the Soviet Union on our trips at that time we took in illegally because it was illegal for people to have anything of their own. You couldn't even have your own pH kits. It was illegal to have anything that would let you know about your environment–that was only for the government. Therefore, getting to citizens equipment they could use to find out about their environment was a revolutionary thing. That is what we started doing. With the hand-held

*(see ECOLOGIA Interview, page 8)*

# Hundreds Gather on Main Street for a Patriotic Response

By Megan O'Keefe
*Assistant Local News Editor*

Four hundred Addison County residents took part in "A Patriotic Response on Main Street" on Saturday, gathering in downtown Middlebury to demonstrate their opposition to United States military action in Iraq. The demonstration was organized by Netaka White, a Salisbury resident, who along with his wife, Claire Artis, owns Greenfields Mercantile on Main Street in Middlebury. White, who is a member of the Addison County Peace Coalition, teamed up with Patriots for Peace founder, Derrick Senior, to conceive, plan and publicize the event.

Rally participants congregated on the Middlebury Town Green at 11 a.m., gathering around the fountain where White stood and passionately addressed the crowd. He began, "We're here today because we're concerned about the direction this country is headed. We're here to continue to build a positive momentum of awareness. We're here because our conscience dictates that we must find ways to respond to this situation creatively, visibly and passionately."

White's message was one of a personal journey towards patriotic activism. He announced, "I am guilty – I am guilty of being a reluctant patriot. I'm not an everyday stars and stripes kinda guy, but events have forced me to get in touch with my inner patriot, and he is fired up. I am so fired up for peace!" White encouraged others to join in a chorus of voices declaring their opposition to war and their commitment to patriotism. White was emphatic in his declaration that one can be a patriot and support peace. "I have read in the daily news that the pundits and even worse, the President and the Secretary of War have called the millions of Americans who are protesting current policy — that they are calling us 'irrelevant', 'unpatriotic' and 'appeasers of the Hussein regime'. And I tell you that is *no way* for a *selected* president to talk to the people of this community," he said.

The mood of the rally vacillated between gravity and amusement, as White sprinkled politically charged rhetoric with light-hearted humor. Demonstrators broke into applause and laughter when White declared, "I'm not at ease when I hear the President speak. I don't believe he's telling us the truth. But I am very comfortable when it comes to standing up for the principles of our constitution and for liberty, democracy and for the Bill of Rights. And I think Betsy Ross is the first great American artist and she did a cool thing when she made our first flag out of hemp. But that's another story."

Concluding his speech with a call for a great awakening of "creative and collective non-violent response," White then organized a migration of the demonstrators from the Town Green onto Main Street. Participants lined the sidewalk on both sides of the street from the Congregational Church to Otter Creek Bridge, each holding two Patriots for Peace signs. Explaining his conception of this part of the rally in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, White said, "Derrick Senior, the founder of Patriots for Peace, and I were brainstorming ideas that could bring a large group of people together and between the two of us it went from just having the gathering in the park to what I thought would make a strong visual presentation — getting people on Main Street. We were working with the idea that the values expressed at the rally are shared by, symbolically speaking, the people of Main Street of America. These are not fringe or odd ways of seeing current events."

> I am guilty – I am guilty of being a reluctant patriotic. I'm not an everyday stars and stripes kinda guy, but events have forced me to get in touch with my inner patriot and he is fired up. I am so fired up for peace!
>
> —Nataka White, organizer of "A Patriotic Response on Main Street"

White has participated in the Addison County Peace Coalition's Saturday vigils on the Middlebury Town Green since late summer but was recently inspired to do something larger. "[The vigils] have been very meaningful for me and I felt like I wanted to bring more people into that effort. My hope for this gathering and the people that helped me organize it was that we could continue with that positive momentum for peace. The way to do that is to encourage people to come out and join those of us that have been doing this for a while. Every day there are more and more people who are comfortable putting the facts together in their own mind and saying no this isn't right and I'm going to add my voice to those voices that are already speaking. That was my hope and it was far exceeded," said White.

White told *The Middlebury Campus*, "This event was designed to serve two purposes. One is simply to bring together and share these values of love of country and a sense that the administration is not representing our views. We are going to stand together and show that. [It] is just for us — to feel our strength in numbers. The other thing was to provide a visual show to interest the media — to show the people who don't know how strong our support is for these values for peace, to show them that we are strong in numbers and will continue the momentum. An event like that which was very positive, non-confrontational left a good mark on the community."

White's desire to achieve a positive community was a feeling shared by many of the Patriotic Response participants. Sheila Seles '05 said, "I thought it was cool to see so many people from the community assembled in support of peace. I also liked that the focus was more on peace than on opposition."

White was overwhelmed by the attendance and perceived success of the event. "It may have frustrated people who wanted to move through town quickly in their cars, I can appreciate that. But the overwhelming response that we picked up was positive. People driving by were honking and waving. I want to thank the Middlebury College students who came down and supported the events, we and the other people in the town really appreciated that," he said.

Vlad Lodoaba

*Saturday's protest drew hundreds of people onto the Middlebury Town Green and the Main Street sidewalks.*

Vlad Lodoaba

*Protesters held up "Patriots for Peace" signs for passing cars to see. "Patriots for Peace" is an organization and a poster initiative recently created by Vermont resident Derrick Senior.*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# State Senate Votes to Reform Act 60 Education Bill

## *Modifications to Alter the Way Vermonters Fund Public School System*

By Ryan Gamble
*Staff Writer*

Recent surpluses in the state's education fund have prompted attempts to reform Act 60, the bill that regulates the way Vermonters pay for public schools. On Feb. 26, the Vermont State Senate unanimously passed a reform bill that would return surplus money from previous years to taxpayers in the form of a cut on property taxes, and would simplify the process of the collection and distribution of state money.

Currently, under Act 60, property taxes are collected by the state and distributed to educational districts as a "block grant" per student, an amount intended to pay for basic school services. The goal of Act 60 is to ensure that all students in Vermont are given equal educational opportunity.

Yet Act 60 has long been controversial. Many Vermonters support increased local control over school spending. Some school districts already supplement the block grant with additional, locally raised funding. While the state block grant for the current school year is $5,566, the average amount spent on a Vermont student is approximately $8,000. Middlebury spends a little over $10,000 per student, while Weybridge spends about $11,000 per student.

The current surpluses are primarily due to two factors. First, in spite of the recent economic recession, the local housing market has undergone rapid inflation over the last few years. This has led to an increase in state revenue from property taxes thanks to higher property values. Secondly, statewide population has led to a decrease in the number of students attending schools.

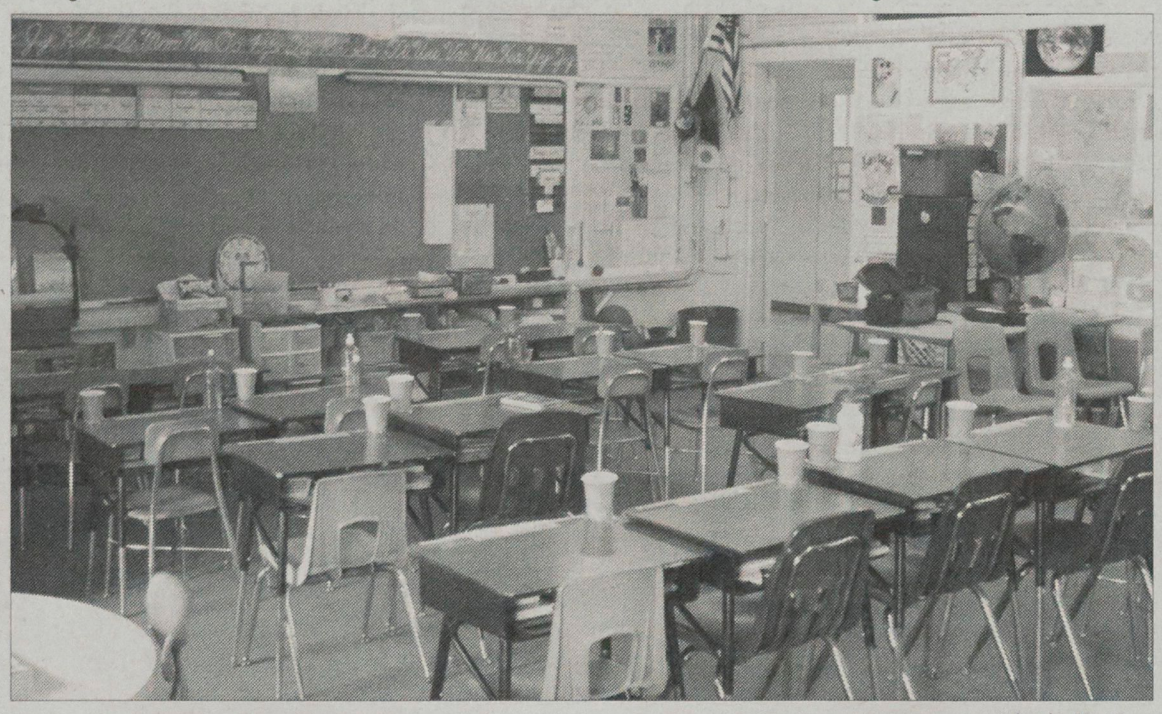
The new Senate reform proposal would increase the state block grant to $7,000 in 2005, bringing it closer to the actual costs of education. The bill would also appropriate more control to local authorities. While property taxes are currently assessed by the state as a percentage of property value, the new reform bill would allow local school districts to determine the property tax rate within their district based on whether they wanted to spend more or less than the $7,000 grant. If a town chose to spend 10 percent less than the $7,000 per student, for example, that town's school property tax would fall by 10 percent.

Many representatives have voiced optimism about the new reform. In a statement to *The Middlebury Campus*, Representative Steven Maier (D – Middlebury) said, "I am for that reform which is as equitable as possible. The new Senate proposal is a step in that direction." He also praised educational quality standards set by Act 60 which have achieved widespread success despite little recognition.

State Senator Claire Ayer (D – Addison County), a member of the committee that drafted the reform proposal believes that, the new reform has many advantages beyond a return of surplus dollars to taxpayers. She noted that the reform bill ensures that in subsequent years all money paid by homeowners will be funneled into the education system. Additionally, Ayer said, the new bill will provide tax relief to farmers.

Despite these strengths, Ayer believes there are still problems with the current reform. She pointed out that the reform bill did not address the unpredictability of property appraisal under Act 60. A summer study group has been established to research this problem. Ayer also expressed concern over the rising costs of special education programs and health insurance for teachers, administrators and staff. These are issues she believes need to be addressed in order for education in Vermont to maintain its current quality at an acceptable cost.

While the Senate bill has gained popularity among Republicans and Democrats alike, it is only one development in an ongoing effort to reform educational funding in Vermont. It has been created alongside a House bill and the Governor's bill also aimed at Act 60 reform. However, the Senate bill is more comprehensive than the House bill, which only outlines a plan for educational spending during the next year. The Senate bill provides for a transitional year in 2004, and the implementation of full reforms in 2005. While the reform bill gained unanimous support in the Senate, changes will likely be made before the bill is ultimately approved. Representatives are not optimistic about approving a reform bill that incorporates long-term Act 60 changes until May.



Schuyler VanHorn
*Funding for schools like Mary Hogan Elementary will change after the passage of Act 60 reforms.*

# ECOLOGIA Interview

*(continued from page 6)*

radiation detector, the person who got it was able to walk around the nuclear power plant in his country and document evidence, which was used to get other scientists and the workers in the factory to realize that they had a problem and had to look into it to see what they could do to fix it. ECOLOGIA, as an environmental organization, being committed to sustainable development and the future of the planet, strongly encourages everyone everywhere to look into sustainable development for power, both solar power and wind power, not just jump in to supporting nuclear power.

*The Campus*: Has there been any involvement on behalf of ECOLOGIA in seeking international environmental standards?

ECOLOGIA: At a top international policy level, we are working on the creation of global greenhouse gas standards for factories to be in compliance with the Kyoto Protocol. In many countries this is more of an issue than it is for American companies, in the short run at least. We have two staff members who travel literally all over the world to International Standards Organization (ISO) meetings. Decisions about these standards are made and there is a lot of political involvement. In the ISO, we actually co-chair one committee. You are there, you have a voice and you have a protected legal status.

The one main thing that we are focusing on, whatever standards are chosen, is having information available to the public. Who is making sure that you are doing what you say you're doing? It becomes a very complicated process. The ISO's process is industry driven. My main concern is that it not be done behind closed doors.

*The Campus*: With consideration of our country's unique position, has there been any benefit to working on international environmental issues from an American perspective?

ECOLOGIA: There is a certain amount of power for people from other countries to come here and to see so much good, particularly the American approach of: "Here's a problem. Lets fix it." It's a really positive, high-morale approach to solving problems, rather than collapsing in despair and frustration.

We have had very good experiences with exchange groups — people can come to the United States and see how we interact with each other and see how citizens relate to government officials. It's the kind of thing that you can talk and talk about, but when someone comes to see it, it is eye-opening.

*The Campus*: To what extent do politics and, in particular, political differences, influence ECOLOGIA's action in other countries?

ECOLOGIA: We are primarily an environmental organization — that was our first real point of connection and it's a wonderful point of connection, especially when working with people in authoritarian countries. We are not coming in and saying "We're promoting human rights. We're promoting democracy." Rather, we're working together on common problems. If the other things come in as a byproduct of the openness and the opportunities to travel and work with people in their own societies, that's terrific, but our focus is primarily environmental.

Regardless of the idiocies of anybody's government you just have to say the key thing, the human thing, which is to connect with other people. However, because of those boundaries you have to make an extra effort. As a human, you see incredible oppression and people living in tremendous fear and with tremendous courage and you respond as a human.

As Americans we have a lot more freedom of choice, a lot more optimism about the world we grew up in, and a lot more financial resources. The first thing you ask is, "What can we do as individuals?" So it comes from the citizens — it's grassroots, as opposed to starting from the government — and I still feel that it's a very powerful approach that the world needs a lot more of.

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# SGA Rejects Anti-War Resolution

*-Alyssa Jumars '06-*

Many of you no doubt noticed the tables that were set up outside Proctor and Ross last week and heard the pleas of: "Would you like to sign an anti-war resolution?" Perhaps some of you are wondering what has come of the 900-odd signatures that were gathered in support of a Student Government Association (SGA) resolution to express the general opposition of Middlebury students to a unilateral war with Iraq.

On Sunday night the signatures and the proposed resolution were presented to the Student Government, and, lamentably, the senators' reactions were much less enthusiastic than those of the cafeteria-goers. Members of the SGA expressed a reluctance to take a political position, arguing that making a formal statement against war with Iraq is beyond the scope of the SGA. The scope of the SGA, as articulated by many of its members, is limited to addressing college policy and the academic and social lives of Middlebury students. This appears to include "pizza sticks and study-breaks," but not issues of global importance.

Although the Middlebury College Handbook (on page 48) defines the role of the SGA as a "vehicle through which students can ... collectively express their views on matters of general interest to the student body," the SGA decided during its session on Sunday night that even voting on a resolution against pre-emptive war in Iraq is beyond its bounds. Evidently, the matter of a war that would cost taxpayers billions of dollars per month, that would directly involve immediate family members of Middlebury students and that would moreover claim the lives of countless innocent Iraqi civilians is not "of general interest to the student body."

It is disappointing that the SGA is unwilling to even consider representing the collective voice of Middlebury students. Although only 900 signatures were gathered in support of the anti-war resolution, they were collected on short notice, and it is likely that a large majority of students would have signed if there had been more time. Although I understand the SGA's fear of making a comprehensive political statement, I feel not only that the majority of students would be in favor of the college taking a formal political stance against war, but also that by refusing to vote on the resolution, the SGA has also made a political statement. After all, silence is consent.

*Alyssa Jumars is from Whitefield, Maine, and joined several other students in drafting the resolution.*

# Shakespeare Needs Madonna, Too

*-Stephanie Morales '05-*

Amber Hillman's piece on affirmative action (*The Middlebury Campus,* Feb. 26, 2003) epitomizes the ignorance and offensiveness that continues to plague this country on issues of race and diversity. Part of a Middlebury education involves dialogue, and providing a forum where different viewpoints can be safely discussed and challenged is necessary, yet what Hillman demonstrated in her article was just how misconstrued her understanding of affirmative action and diversity is.

The value and necessity of diversity in education cannot be nonchalantly dismissed in a sentence, "The new pressure society is putting on colleges to diversify their campuses to recreate a mixed mini-society is an idealistic attempt to create a heterogeneous society."

Diversity is the only way to ensure that a full education is granted, as only through diversity can one become more tolerant, understanding, knowledgeable and enriched. This is essential and one of the ways to ensure that it happens is affirmative action.

Contrary to Hillman's piece, affirmative action's purpose is not to admit less qualified students solely based on their race in order to quell the "new pressure from society." The origins of affirmative action were to combat the rampant racism and discrimination that was denying admittance of minorities to colleges and universities as well as in the workplace.

Presently, as much as Hillman would like to think that race does not matter anymore, affirmative action is, still, just as necessary as in the 1960s. Perhaps Hillman has never been to an inner-city high school to truly understand just how complex this issue is.

I am a proud Latina from Queens; my public high school had 3500 students stuffed in a building built for no more than 1000. My classes were never less than 35 students. Personal attention was not a guarantee, neither were numerous resources to enhance my education. Taught by underpaid and sometimes underqualified teachers and affected by constant budget cuts that decreased the number of academic counselors, paper, books and after-school programs were some of the "supposed disadvantages" that I faced. Yet despite all of this I worked with what I had and made the best of it. The reason I was admitted to Middlebury College was because I deserved it. The very fact that I could even make it to Middlebury is proof of just how extraordinary I am, along with every single minority student here that has had to deal with the very REAL disadvantages they faced.

Affirmative action, especially at Middlebury College, considers race as a contributing, not sole factor, to the "well-rounded character" that Hillman points out that applicants must have. One of the best examples, in metaphor, given to me regarding the necessity of diversity was by a very good friend of mine in the College's administration. He said that if you have one student who was raised on Shakespeare and another who was raised on Madonna and they come to Middlebury and are tested on Shakespeare, who do you predict will perform better? The type of diversity needed and the kinds of changes that should be happening in higher education are ensuring that students know both Shakespeare and Madonna.

Diversity is not about filling quotas and printing pictures of minority students on college publications.

It is about a sincere, committed effort to guarantee that a rich exchange of diverse knowledge is

*(see Morales, page 12)*

# Middle Ground

*-Fahim Ahmed '03-*

Since its inception in 1965, affirmative action has been a hotly debated issue in academic, political and legal circles. Hailed by some as a method of redressing discrimination that had persisted despite civil rights laws and constitutional mandates, affirmative action has nevertheless been challenged by others as discrimination in reverse form.

While a consensus on the aforementioned issue is lacking in our society, arguably, a majority holds the view that affirmative action has failed to achieve its desired goal.

The failure of affirmative action in achieving racial equity in society is not surprising, if one considers that perhaps it was not designed to be a permanent solution to a long-standing problem. Affirmative action, in college recruiting and corporate hiring practices, provides a temporal response to the existing ethno-socio-economic conditions by treating the symptoms rather than the illness.

One may, therefore, posit that affirmative action was perhaps never intended to be a fixture in our social construct, but rather an intermediate step in the direction of social equality. And to reach that desired goal would require policies that make opportunities available to all Americans, every step of the way. And that process must begin well before the collegiate entrance or job hiring levels.

In the context of collegiate admission, affirmative action treats the symptoms, i.e. discrepancies in the academic credentials of applicants across racial or ethnic lines, rather than the root: differences in the quality of education at the secondary and elementary levels across socio-economic and racial groups.

The vast disparity in academic standards among public schools in inner-city neighborhoods and those in posh suburban neighborhoods provides a testimony to the argument that the causes of discrepancies in academic credentials of college applicants are indeed deep rooted.

Therefore, to supplement and eventually phase out affirmative action in college recruiting, the government needs to play a strong role in raising the bottom in educational standards. And that is best done by increasing federal funding for elementary and secondary schools.

The current level of federal funding for public schools stands at an alarmingly low level of 14 percent (Senator Jeffords (I-Vt.) 'Quotes of the Week', *The Middlebury Campus,* Feb. 26, 2003). In the absence of sufficient federal funding, local and state authorities must make up the balance from its cash-strapped budgets. Large metropolises, that generally account for a high density of minority population, tend to find their municipal budgets constrained by competing needs: residential projects, police service, building and maintenance, and of course, education. Thus, the desired level of educational excellence remains unachieved.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the critics of affirmative action in college recruiting practices, including the Bush administration, to come up with suitable alternatives to the status quo, before the system is taken down entirely.

Meanwhile, the racially insensitive rhetoric under the banner of 'conservatism' must end once and for all. And may Hillman be reminded of the philosophy of 'compassionate conservatism' that had not so long ago elevated George W. Bush into office.

# Consequences for Iraq

*-Drew Pugsley '04-*

In light of Iraq's recent "cooperation" with U.N. weapons inspectors with respect to the al-Samoud 2 missile system, I would not advise the United States to attack Iraq today, or tomorrow. Though I, as any rational citizen of this world should conclude, am certain that this is all part of Saddam's "game of deception," invading Iraq within the next week would set a bad international precedent.

That being said, I do not think that Iraq is about to, or will ever, disarm completely without military action.

In the whole course of these international protests and anti-war SGA resolutions we seem to have forgotten one fundamental issue in this conflict with Iraq: the reason for the U.N. resolutions and U.S. economic sanctions on Iraq. In 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait. The very first U.N. resolution requiring disarmament was a punishment for invading and seizing the sovereignty of a neighboring nation.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Tony Blair maintains that there are "consequences of '[stopping] the war.'" Mr. Blair has staked his career and the future of his party on the Iraq conflict and the future of the United Nations. Two-thirds of the people in Great Britain oppose war with Iraq and yet Blair remains firm. In an effort to save his career, he makes a moral case for war with Iraq: he cites, most notably, the more than one in eight Iraqi children who die before age five of easily preventable conditions.

Financially, some have put the cost of war with Iraq at an upper extreme of about $100 billion. The cost to taxpayers of cleaning up two ounces of anthrax in the Senate offices was $42 million. The Brookings Institution estimates the cost of a biological attack on a U.S. city at $750 billion, not to mention the impact that an attack of this magnitude would have both psychologically and economically.

As much as I dislike simply regurgitating political rhetoric, the United Nations was formed to protect and maintain the collective security of its members. Iraq is a destabilizing force in the world, particularly in the Middle East. Saddam Hussein and his team of scientists have failed to account for a chemical and biological weapons arsenal that they have admitted to possessing.

In the Feb. 26 issue of *The Campus,* Bryan Goldberg was absolutely correct in asserting that the burden is on Iraq to prove that it no longer has these weapons. Why should Dr. Blix run around Iraq looking for these weapons when the very first resolution was in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait?

I personally believe that it is time for the United Nations to fulfill the mission for which it was created and enforce Resolution 1441. The members of the Security Council must realize that at some point there must be "serious consequences" for Iraq and any nation that threatens the spread of democracy and the security of the world in general.

In my opinion these consequences must be clearly defined and, in order to avoid irrelevance, the United Nations must enforce them. In 1962 President John F. Kennedy proclaimed, "the 1930s taught us a clear lesson: aggressive conduct, if allowed to go unchecked and unchallenged, ultimately leads to war." The United Nations must stand up to this aggressor and do the job for which it was conceived.

Should the UN wait another 12 years before it finally decides to enforce these resolutions? The time has come for the Security Council to draft one firm and final ultimatum to Saddam Hussein.

*Drew Pugsley is a political science - economics double major from Moreland Hills, Ohio.*

## Editorial

We want to commend Janine Knight '03, Toni Spence '04, Kiki Taylor '03 and Naima Gregory '03 for organizing a town meeting Sunday evening on the topic of diversity issues in this newspaper, on campus and in our society. It is laudable that members of our community came together with valid, constructive comments. *The Campus* believes that concerns raised will help us bring about better coverage of diversity events and issues. We are committed to this goal, as we are towards encouraging a dialogue on diversity matters as they affect students at Middlebury College.

As the Middlebury community proceeds, a lesson to take from Sunday's town meeting was that it set a tone for discussions of complex issues affecting our lives as students. It was respectful, a quality students cannot lose sight of in both speaking their minds and listening to others.

President John McCardell stated in October prior to Ari Fleischer '82 address at Mead Chapel that our community holds "profound differences" on matters of U.S. foreign policy. These differences extend to other matters of politics, culture and society. McCardell said, too, last fall that the freedom of speech is bound with the courtesy of the freedom to listen. With this in mind, we hope that debate continues here at Middlebury as we confront two pressing national issues: the future of affirmative action in the University of Michigan Supreme Court case, as well as the possible consequences of American action against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

In the progression of debate on these topics at Middlebury, we hope to hear both sides and to hear fair, informed opinions voiced. We cannot, in the process, lose sight of the Constitutional right to the freedom of speech, the freedom of the press and to McCardell's additional point concerning the freedom to listen. Finally, may debate be robust so as to unravel any notions that our campus or our generation is apathetic.

In addition, too often we tend to shy away from discussing contentious issues. We have on our opinions page this week a diversity of perspectives. These pages remain open to all students wishing to write on topics that are significant to them. Let discussion, however, not be limited to *The Campus*. A town meeting on the war in Iraq planned for Thursday evening should be another venue. We also hope that a larger discussion of affirmative action can take place in a forum of students and faculty later this semester.


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# Deans Detail Admissions Policies

*-Karen Guttentag and Marichal Gentry-*

We are writing in response to Amber Hillman's "Conservative Voice" column on affirmative action (*The Middlebury Campus*, Feb.26, 2003). Although we both now serve on the Dean of Student Affairs' staff here at Middlebury, we share a common background in college admissions. Between the two of us, we bring more than 10 years of experience in admissions at three highly selective institutions: Bowdoin College, the University of the South and Lafayette College. Given our familiarity with the admissions process, we find the assumptions that informed Hillman's argument to be not only disturbing but incorrect as well.

Hillman's column suggests that admitting students of color is a euphemism for admitting unqualified students, and she worries that this will necessitate the weakening of College-wide academic standards in order to accommodate these students. In actuality, the admissions committees on which we have served did not admit students unless we had complete confidence in their ability not only to survive but also to thrive at our respective institutions, and we believe Middlebury adheres to this standard as well. We are equally confident that Middlebury professors apply the same high academic standards to all students, and would find the idea of lowering these standards to ensure academic success abhorrent. Furthermore, we reject Hillman's equation of minority status with academic inferiority, and we discourage her from using generalizations when addressing issues as controversial and complex as affirmative action.

Perhaps most problematic is Hillman's apparent lack of awareness of the role that socioeconomic status plays in shaping the profiles of both majority and minority applicants. In our experience, all students are evaluated in the context of their sending environments. This means that disadvantaged students of all racial backgrounds, be they from rural towns or inner cities, are expected to have excelled in their respective environments and to have taken full advantage of all available resources. These students are often the valedictorians of severely under-resourced schools. There may be no AP courses offered, nor a curriculum that adequately prepares students to excel on the SAT, but these students tend to participate in academic enhancement programs outside of their high school when they are available. These students generally hold down jobs, often while serving as leaders in extracurricular pursuits — albeit less often in those sports or activities that require expensive equipment and summer training camps.

Students from highly advantaged backgrounds are also judged by the extent to which they have taken advantage of the resources available to them. Thus, students from privileged environments with strong academic qualifications may possess the requisite level of intelligence, but if they have failed to fully avail themselves of additional academic or extracurricular opportunities or contribute to their community in meaningful ways, they will be passed over. Again, these standards apply to both majority and minority students.

We encourage Hillman to continue to explore the issue of affirmative action. We expect she will find that all students at Middlebury, regardless of their race, socioeconomic background or family history, are fully capable of academic success in Middlebury's most rigorous curricular offerings.

*Karen Guttentag is the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs*

*Marichal Gentry is the Associate Dean of Student Affairs*

# Affirmative Action Matters

*-Crystal Belle '04-*

Since when did the definition of affirmative action become a policy that admits students of color by turning a blind eye on academic standing? According to Amber Hillman '05, I, along with every other student of color on campus, am not academically qualified to be here.

Hillman opens her deliberately ignorant column with this question: "Isn't it the objective of highly selective colleges and universities such as Middlebury College to provide the best education possible to a select group of educated and intelligent students?"

Yes, that is the goal of these schools. Within the framework of these goals lies an affirmative action policy. As a result of Hillman's apparently meager comprehension of affirmative action I feel it is my duty to educate her.

Affirmative action was born from the civil rights movement over three decades ago in an attempt to rectify historical racial and sexual discrimination, which just so happens to be embedded in American history. Institutions with affirmative action policies do not modify admission standards. In fact, the same academic qualifications apply to minority students.

> Affirmative action is not based on quotas. Instead, the policy looks at academics before race is even considered.

Affirmative action is not based on quotas and does not make exceptions for those who are unqualified. Instead, the policy looks at academics before race is even considered. Hence, the policy is a strategy to attract more outstanding students of color to college campuses worldwide in order to create a more diverse campus.

I don't know if Hillman is aware of this, but despite Middlebury's diversity, this campus is very homogenous. How many students here are from just outside of Boston? How many students are legacies? How many students play sports? Where are the conservative voice columns written on them?

Every time I look around, someone is perturbed because they feel some "minority" stole their spot. Listen, the reality is if

*(see Belle, page 11)*

## Opinions Submission Policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for reasons including, but not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper.

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# Forest Defense: Time to Drop Boise Cascade

*-Wellington Lyons '04.5-*

In December of last year, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (RACR), a policy drafted during the late years of the Clinton administration, and supported on the record by over 2 million Americans who commented on the policy. The RACR protects our remaining roadless areas in our publicly owned national forests from commercial logging and road construction. Only 58.5 million acres of America's 191 million acres of national forest remain roadless. The increasing scarcity and value of these areas as wildlife habitat, as watersheds and as refuges for human beings is becoming increasingly evident with each passing day.

The RACR rule was formulated after dozens of public hearings, millions of citizen comments, years of increasing scientific study and recognition of the value of intact, roadless lands in sustaining healthy wildlife populations, clean watersheds and natural ecological processes. After being suspended by a district judge in Idaho in 2001, the RACR is once again the law of the land. However, there has been far too little discussion of the entities whose name is on the lawsuits against the RACR. One of them just so happens to be the paper supplier for Middlebury College, the Boise Cascade Corporation. Boise has already appealed the Ninth Circuit's affirmation of the RACR, and its continued legal blockades against sound forest management compels us to reassess our relationship with the company.

The RACR, in protecting intact, naturally functioning ecosystems, reflects the increasing scientific understanding that bark beetles and root rots, along with other millennia-old agents of change in natural forests, are far from the signs of "unhealthy" forests that we have often heard timber companies proclaim must be remedied at their own profit. Rather, these agents are essential and indispensable parts of a forest ecosystem, for which human beings have yet to devise any equivalent or replacement. Not surprisingly, however, Boise Cascade has been at the forefront of a public relations blitz to manufacture a comical parody of how forests function.

Boise Cascade's own Web site is very telling. It argues, "This lockup would potentially expose America's national forests and surrounding communities to devastation similar to what occurred in 2002, when 4.6 million acres of federal land were destroyed by catastrophic wildfires." Such statements reveal a profound and powerful willingness to disregard the existence of the overwhelming scientific evidence that shows that the logging and development of roadless areas has increased, rather than decreased, the severity and extent of catastrophic wildfire.

It is most ironic that, in the 2002 wildfire season cited by Boise Cascade, the most powerful fires, including the Hayman and Chediski-Rodeo, occurred in some of the most heavily roaded and logged national forests in the country. The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture's National Fire Plan staff concluded, in its 2000 report to the U.S. president, "The removal of large, merchantable trees from forests does not reduce fire risk and may, in fact, increase such risk." Boise Cascade's own corporate predecessors have dominated federal land policy for the better part of the 20th century, and have aggressively supported the fire suppression and commercial logging that has created the "tinderbox" condition in certain parts of the country today. Indeed, the Fire Plan staff has identified 89 million acres of National Forest System land that have a moderate to high risk of catastrophic fire. Of this, less than 16 percent are in roadless areas that have not yet been manipulated by the hand of man.

The Court rightly found that "given the importance of roadless lands as a resource and the ease with which they may be irretrievably damaged a near total ban on further road construction in the remaining and precious roadless areas within our national forests is not the drastic measure that the plaintiffs make it out to be." Thankfully, the Court was not suckered by the misleading caricatures of the natural workings of forests that are hyped by Boise Cascade's public relations department.

Boise Cascade's argument that our forests will suddenly not survive without their benevolent logging services is a slap in the face to the American public, and a grave insult to anyone with a basic understanding of forest ecology.

If Middlebury is going to continue to purchase from Boise, a corporation directly engaged in steering public policy towards its own profit at the public expense, why shouldn't we be contributing to anti-environmental lobbying groups as well?

The future of our national forests is at stake, and we had better do something about it. I call on the environmentally minded students of Middlebury College to organize a campaign to get the administration to drop our current paper supplier and to make the switch to a more environmentally friendly corporation. Our student environmental groups, such as the Environmental Council, should take the lead on this initiative.

Until that time please e-mail me, wlyons@middlebury.edu, and we can outline an action plan. All too often it seems as though corporations only get the message when their actions begin to hurt their bottom line. As thoughtful, powerful consumers, we must exert our influence. If a serious lost sale is what it takes to get Boise to clean up its act, then that should be our first tactic in the struggle to win a more environmentally sound future.

*Wellington Lyons is a political science major from North Yarmouth, Maine.*

# 'Conservative Voice' Column Upsets Billman

*-Hilary Billman '05-*

Amber Hillman's column on affirmative action conveys a profound lack of knowledge on the part of its writer. The article, based solely on personal prejudices and opinions, fails to truly address Middlebury's affirmative action policies ("Conservative Voice," *The Middlebury Campus*, Feb.26, 2003).

Hillman states that Middlebury's goal to create a "racially diverse classroom" is accomplished by admitting less qualified students of color ("minorities" is no longer appropriate as minorities are now the majority) over "a highly qualified majority applicant." This statement is fraught with problems for many reasons.

If Hillman had done any research on the history of affirmative action before writing her article she would have learned that the affirmative action of today is not the original version of affirmative action.

The goal of the original affirmative action, and the one championed by Middlebury and other colleges, aimed to admit only equally qualified students of color in an attempt to create a diverse student body. When other institutions began accepting less qualified students of color over others with higher qualifications, affirmative action developed the reputation held today.

Hillman also seems to have a lack of faith in Middlebury as she states that with the body of unqualified students struggling, "Middlebury must lower its educational standards." If she had actually spoken to any person of color on this campus she would learn that their educational talents rival those of any on this campus.

Another aspect Hillman fails to acknowledge is the fact that affirmative action practices in the newer sense stretch beyond race to gender and geographic locale. If she were truly an advocate of admission based on the desire to create "a college focused on furthering educational excellence," then perhaps she should also consider Middlebury's very frequently employed practice of admission based on legacy.

Surely, there is no guarantee that a student's or graduate's relatives will be just as smart as they. Under Hillman's dream, the "variety of backgrounds" would consist of a homogeneous, elite few. This is in no way in the college's best academic or social interests.

*Hilary Billman is a history major from New York City.*

# Belle Asserts Importance of Affirmative Action

*(continued from page 10)*

you are of the majority and you did not get into the school of your choice, that is because there was someone else who had something you lacked. Do not blame a group of people for your college rejection letters.

Perhaps to Hillman's surprise, every single minority on this campus is here because they are qualified, sometimes overqualified. Without the minorities on this campus, Middlebury would be a culture-less, bland environment.

Think of the organizations that bring life to Middlebury: African American Alliance, Alianza Latina Caribena, RIDDIM, UMOJA, ISO and the list goes on. Students of color who excel both socially and academically lead these organizations.

A blind man can see the many errors in Hillman's column, which leads me to question the editorial staff. Yes, one has freedom of expression according to the First Amendment, however one does not have the right to publish fallacies, which leads to the perpetuation of the idea that minorities are inferior to their majority counterparts.

To draw more on Hillman's blatant ignorance, I was horrified when I came towards the end in which she states: "Fortunately, we no longer live in the 1960's, and in today's world, race matters much less than it did in the past."

Although racism no longer consists of public segregation and lynchings, it is still very apparent in American society in more institutionalized settings such as corporate America and college campuses. Race has mattered since the beginning of time and will continue to matter until the end of time.

To quote the great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. correctly, if one were judged by the content of their character as opposed to the color of their skin, affirmative action would not exist. Maybe if policy brutality was not so common among minorities, then race would remain a thing of the past, as Hillman alluded to. This is what Dr. Martin Luther King wanted, racial equality.

No, he would never agree with Hillman's idea that race should not play a role in the college admission process. In fact, he would be delighted to know that as a result of racial progress and social change, minorities are now considered in the educational applicant pool, as opposed to days when they were not even allowed to read a book.

So you see Hillman, as long as racial injustice and disparities are apparent, then policies such as affirmative action will continue to be necessary.

*Crystal Belle is an English major from Brooklyn, New York.*

liberal VOICE

*-Laura Kelly '06-*

The claim that Middlebury College is admitting academically unqualified students to create a more racially diverse community is unfounded. Prospective students must satisfy an academic standard before they are accepted to Middlebury. In addition to academics, the College takes student talents, experiences, achievements and diversity into consideration in order to form a well rounded and dynamic student body.

With the increasing amount of applicants to Middlebury in recent years, the College is able to be more selective in its choices. As a result, educational standards have risen — not lowered — while affirmative action has been in place.

Middlebury College "seeks to maintain a diverse community committed to broadened educational opportunities within an atmosphere of respect for others" (Middlebury College Handbook). Diversity, in its broader sense, includes gender, class, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion and sexual orientation. Race should be considered, among other factors, in the admissions process since a multifaceted environment is so valuable for students.

We should embrace individualism, and appreciate the plethora of components that people bring to our community. Different cultural and racial backgrounds allow students to partake in more engaging debates and experience a greater variety of viewpoints. Homogeneity should not be our primary focus in finding "a select group of educated and intelligent students."

Students from disadvantaged areas, regardless of race, cannot compete on a level playing field with students who have greater resources. No one is giving these students a free ride to a prestigious college. Affirmative action is a step to reverse the oppression of economic and racial minorities.

The College applies this same logic in giving favor to applicants who are the first student in his family to attend college. Affirmative action offers these minority students more than just an education. It gives them a chance to make connections, receive higher paying jobs and have access to a better lifestyle.

When race becomes merely an element of culture rather than a source of social and economic stratification in society, the necessity for affirmative action will no longer exist. However, until that society is established, affirmative action has a valuable place in the admission process of Middlebury College.

*(see Liberal Voice, page 12)*

# Goldberg Supports SGA Decision

*-Bryan Goldberg '05-*

The Student Government Association should be congratulated for the way in which it handled the debate regarding a possible resolution to label our community as anti-war. By tabling the resolution, the SGA interpreted its political role properly and helped to keep this school a forum for free discourse.

One of the biggest problems with the resolution that was envisioned by Wellington Lyons '04 and introduced by Fahim Ahmed '03 is that it "labels" our community.

Rarely, if ever, does a community benefit from being branded with a label.

Furthermore, even if the label is accurate, that does not make it beneficial. For example, Middlebury has long been labeled as a "rich school for white kids." While it is completely true that Middlebury has a large endowment and that it is predominantly white, our college would rather not be "labeled" in such a manner. From an academic standpoint, we are often "labeled" as a language school; however, as excellent as our language program may be, we have many other great departments. Why, then, even if this campus were predominantly against a war in Iraq, would we impose a label upon ourselves? Given the caliber of intellectual ideas here in Middlebury, and given the diversity of thoughts and opinions, it would be foolish for the SGA to "label" our campus as "pro" or"anti" anything. By the same logic, more than half of our population accepts Christ as its Messiah, but we do not label our school "pro-Jesus."

Another major flaw with the Lyons' plan is that it necessarily hurts the college's mission of promoting thoughtful and educated discussion.

How can a debate about the war be taken seriously when the location of the discussion, Middlebury College, has been labeled in favor of one side?

How can we continue to publish thoughtful articles about our nation's foreign policy in our school newspaper when the school itself prefers petitions to arguments?

In short, Lyons' resolution and truly thoughtful on-campus discussion cannot co-exist.

Finally, I would like to dispel speculation that Lyon's resolution was in any way similar to the school's official affirmative action stance. The reason the school supports affirmative action is because it currently uses the process in order to build its student body; it thus has a direct interest in affirmative action remaining constitutional. The same cannot be said about our current war plans, for a liberation of Iraq has absolutely nothing to do with Middlebury College.

*Bryan Goldberg is an economics major from Los Altos, CA.*

# Howard Advocates 'Respect for Equality'

*-Christopher Howard '04.5-*

One interesting thing about North American students in this generation is that we all seem to have watched the same television shows when we were children. And all of these shows tend to stress the same basic rules of conduct, particularly with respect to equality. Ask any five year old if it is fair that one person is favored over another in college admissions decisions because of some external factor like skin color, and he or she will certainly know the answer without batting an eyelash.

Why then is the issue of affirmative action such a hot topic? Amber Hillman's article (*The Middlebury Campus*, Feb. 26, 2003) has caused a lot of negative backlash. I am here to ponder why this article has offended so many people, and why, perhaps, it should not have done so.

In an e-mail forwarded to me by the Middlebury Asian Student Organization (MAS0) the words "opinion is one thing; implying that the only people who belong at Middlebury are those who are well-educated, highly-qualified 'majority' students is another" appeared. Did Hillman imply that? If she did, I certainly missed it. What I read was that, with affirmative action in place, a college applicant who is in the visible majority — and here I am talking about skin color — may have to work harder academically to be accepted than would an applicant who is in a visible minority, all other factors being equal. What this boils down to is that the goal of diversity on campus is more important than the goal of meritocracy in the admissions office. This is what Hillman was articulating, and somehow this has made her into a racist in the view of just about every student on campus.

These days, it is not fashionable to favor meritocracy over diversity. And why should it be? I came here because I preferred Middlebury's admissions process over the pure academic meritocracy system in my native country to the North, Canada. If it were not for the Middlebury admissions office seeking "diversity," why would they have cared about my four years crew experience, my position as yearbook editor or my Duke of Edinburgh's Award gold standing? I am glad that they considered these traits, which are as important to me as they are a part of me. Canadian universities judge applicants purely on the average percentage in the five top subjects taken in the senior year of high school, and that is why they will never be as good as American universities in terms of learning environment.

So I'm all for diversity, but here is where I part company with the supporters of race-based affirmative action: I have trouble stomaching the moral implications of giving somebody merit that is not based on something they have earned. I will not be convinced that being a member of an underrepresented minority adds the same kind of positive flavor to one's résumé as having been the leader of a student group on a high school campus. They are simply not in the same boat.

That is why I support Hillman's opinion. We all want (in Hillman's words) "highly selective colleges and universities, such as Middlebury College, to provide the best education possible to a select group of educated and intelligent students," right? Sure, sounds good. But many of us would also agree that "highly selective colleges have a compelling educational interest in enrolling highly diverse — including racially diverse — classes." It is in those rare circumstances when these two ideals do not perfectly coincide that we must make moral decisions.

Personally, I choose to go with my instincts, and oppose the extra 20 points awarded to underrepresented minority students at some universities, because they have nothing to do with merit earned by the student, whether it be academic, leadership, or other. Perhaps these simple Sesame-Street-Kantian ethics have been burned into me from a young age, but that is how I, as well as many others who were also once five years old, view the dilemma.

*Christopher Howard is an international politics and economics major from West Vancouver, British Columbia.*

# Chen Furthers Debate

*-Yvonne Chen '05-*

After reading last week's column Conservative Voice, I was both upset and offended by Amber Hillman's comments on affirmative action ("Conservative Voice," *The Middlebury Campus*, Feb. 26. 2003). However, I commend her for bravery for expressing her view on a controversial, yet important topic.

Since some critics tend to target students of color over any other beneficiary group (women, legacies, athletes, etc.), this article will offer historical and current commentary on the significance of race throughout history and today, and its role in institutions of higher education.

While for almost 40 years women and historically marginalized people of color have benefited from these polices which were meant to expand their opportunities, many of us are quick to forget that affirmative action has actually had a much longer history. Affirmative action for most whites first started with the abolition of European servitude as black slaves were left to be the only source of free labor in the colonies. Later, it took the shape of the 1790 Naturalization Act, which granted almost every European immigrant full citizenship and excluded indigenous blacks, Asians and Native Americans. It was found in the racially restrictive FHA housing loans of the 1930s to the '60s, which helped over 15 million white families. More generally, it existed for over 100 years as official racial segregation, depriving marginalized status groups of human decency, as well as access to opportunities in employment, higher education, and social networks such as the "old boys clubs."

Thankfully, we no longer live in that time of outright racial discrimination — at least, I hope not. We do, however, live with its effects. For example, white families have an average net worth that is 11 times the net worth of black families even when only comparing families of like size, composition, education and income status according to a recent study. A full-time black male worker in 2003 makes less in real dollar terms than similar white men were earning in 1967. Moreover, the current baby-boomer generation of whites is currently in the process of inheriting between $7-10 trillion in assets from their parents and grandparents. This is property handed down by individuals who were given the opportunity to accumulate assets during a time when people of color largely could not. Since higher-income individuals are able to afford to invest in their children's educations and have disproportionate access to powerful social networks, it seems that this little fact goes a long way. In higher education, children of alumni gain an edge on admittance. Who you know also applies to the work world as social connections, not merit, account for about 60% of all jobs in America. While it is easy to ignore the privileges that history has afforded or denied any one of us — they are not lessons to ignore. These facts are important to assess before we start to talk about meanings of fairness.

It comes to no surprise that universities and colleges, which consider individuals both collectively and individually, value those individuals who will take the fullest advantage of what they have to offer. At Middlebury, as at all colleges adhering to the laws of this country, race is one factor which helps determine the composition of the student body. It is one of many factors used to determine whether an applicant ought to be admitted. Quotas are illegal. Moreover — while diversity serves to narrow the gaps of inequality in this country — it also offers the unique life experiences and perspectives of an otherwise underrepresented group, and increases the potential for racial understanding beyond those impersonal stereotypes out there today. However, after hearing Hillman's argument that students of color "compromise" her education it upsets me that one college student would have to share these reasons to another. In closing, I ask, what is it about race that makes it worthy of controversy?

*Yvonne Chen is a political science major from Queens, New York.*

# Liberal Voice Supports Affirmative Action

*(continued from page 11)*

I strongly believe the benefits of affirmative action continue to outweigh its' inequities, both real and perceived. Amber Hillman's Conservative Voice column, published in the Feb. 26 issue of *The Middlebury Campus*, takes a narrow perspective in examining this subject. Although I believe everyone has a right to voice ther opinion, her article was unnecessarily condescending towards minority students at Middlebury.

*Laura Kelly is a first-year from Suffern, New York.*

# Morales Argues Benefits of Diversity, Affirmative Action

*(continued from page 9)*

taking place. I challenge Hillman's claims that affirmative action would allow the admittance a large group of students who cannot handle the workload so that "the College must lower its educational standards to accommodate them." I wonder if she has seen the GPAs of the minority students here. I will willingly show my transcript and prove that instead of Middlebury lowering its standards for me I have come here and succeeded as well as contributing to other students' educational experience, like that of Hillman.

I am triumphantly learning the Shakespeare and I challenge Hillman to venture into my Madonna world.

The last time I read the paper or watched the news race still mattered. I wonder if the names James Byrd Jr. or Abner Louima mean anything to Hillman. Perhaps she recalls the racist postings on middkid.com, illustrating that race even matters at Middlebury College.

I request a formal apology from *The Campus* for printing such blatant, offensive misinformation and a statement from Middlebury College explaining its policy on affirmative action and continued support of it.

*Stephanie Morales is a film major with a Chinese minor from Queens, New York.*

# Recognition of Black History Month at Middlebury College

*-Kiki Taylor '03-*

*Dear Editor:*

*This article reflects an accurate version of the Black History Month events that took place here at Middlebury on both Feb. 15 and 23. Due to inappropriate usage of this article by* The Middlebury Campus *(which failed to seek the permission of the writer before taking whole paragraphs from her article in order to create their own in the Feb. 26 issue), it is necessary to include the following facts to make the Middlebury College community aware of how important it is to both understand and include black history. Members of the minority community deserve proper recognition of their cultural events and refuse to continuously accept unexcused errors made by* The Campus *or any other majority-led student/faculty organization. Please keep in mind that these comments are directed only towards those persons that have done wrong. Enjoy the original version!*

Saturday, Feb. 15 marked a very special day for a number of students, faculty, and staff at Middlebury College, and although the event was very well attended, it failed to receive proper coverage in last week's edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, Feb. 19, 2003. Despite the variety of workshops held, the warm cultural lunch provided by catering services, and the powerful anthems performed by both Francois Clemmons and Mchakamchaka, the event went unrecognized by the College's very own newspaper. This of course is not the first time a student of color organizational event has been denied a place in *The Campus*, but this type of "mistake" really should no longer continue to go unnoticed. Black History Month is simply one out of many celebrations of the successes and achievements of leaders of color all over the world, and therefore deserves the respect of both *The Campus* and the entire Middlebury College community. That said, I thank *The Campus* for the excellent photo of Professor William Nash on page four of the paper, but I wonder how the paragraph describing his participation in the "Workshop Series" somehow disappeared.

A great photo in the middle of nowhere, and no connection made to African American Alliance's (AAA) Black History Month Celebration Part I. Hmm. It is possible that maybe the photographer lacked the necessary details to expand upon the photo, so please allow me to provide a better account of Saturday's layout.

The morning opened with a welcome by senior Juan Peña in Bicentennial Hall 104 and the introduction of Visiting Faculty Diversity Scholar-in-Residence, Vermonja Alston. Alston led the first interactive workshop titled "Tropical Memories of Romantic Origins: Twentieth-Century African American Rites of Passage through the Caribbean," where she examined interpretations made by U.S. blacks on the representation of blacks in the Caribbean.

Directly following Alston, junior Athenia Fischer introduced Associate Professor of American Literature and Civilization, William R. Nash, and he played a few popular hits from the 60s like "My Girl" and "Inner City Blues" in his workshop titled "From Motown to Stax: The Evolution of Black Popular Music Aesthetics in the 1960s". A little after noon, Nash ended his workshop and students, faculty and staff begin to congregate upstairs in The Great Hall in order to prepare for the luncheon and welcome ceremony organized by both senior Kiki Taylor and Assistant in Academic Administration, Jessa Karki. During the luncheon, Associate Chaplain Rabbi Ira Schiffer gave the invocation with much passion and spirit, Twilight Artist in Residence Francois Clemmons (along with Dick Forman) performed "Lift Every Voice and Sing", and Mchakamchaka sang "Nkosi Sikeleli Afrika". Workshop leaders (as well participants) were then presented with certificates to honor their involvement in the Black History Month Celebration and Taylor explained the meaning of the month itself. In the second half of the day, first year Natlie Fisher introduced Associate Professor of History William B. Hart and he led an intense workshop titled "Higher Education and Affirmative Action in the 21st Century." Hart created a room full of discussion when he asked whether or not "set asides" and other forms of "preferential treatment" are indeed "constitutional." Sophomore Andy Rossmeissl (introduced by junior Crystal Belle) finished off the "Workshop Series" by leading an engaging conversation on "Hip-Hop: An Interactive History." Rossmeissl demonstrated how rap, graffiti, break-dance, and spoken word all make up hip-hop culture.

Judging from the description above, it would appear as though a lot of hard work went in to organizing this day, and as President of African American Alliance I don't fully understand the failure of an event such as this to be left out of *The Campus*.

For those that don't know, African American Alliance (among many other cultural and diversity organizations on campus) plans our events in order to reach out to the College community and educate everyone on issues affecting our people and our culture. Is that not what diversity is all about? Black History Month, specifically, should not just be co-sponsored by AAA, UMOJA, PCSO, OID, and PALANA, but also by a great selection of departments on campus. Black leaders are musicians, dancers, historians, politicians, athletes, artists, writers and much, much more. Also, black leaders are not only a part of African, African American or Caribbean organizations. Many students find it very disappointing that there always exists some problem with *The Campus* when reporting cultural events-either an incorrect name or statement, or a failure to acknowledge that particular event accurately. By the way, I loved "Vagina Monologues," but Black History Month Celebration was just as magnificent a performance. *The Campus* should know that negative events are not the only events that deserve front-page status.

What about Black History Month Celebration Part II "BHC Coffee House" held this past Sunday, Feb. 23rd in The Gamut Room, where Fischer, Belle and junior Anais Mitchell all preformed beautiful pieces? During the performances, students enjoyed each other's company, listened to mellow tunes by senior DJ Plasma — Jason Spiegler and devoured delicious homemade Almond Red Velvet Cake, Double Chocolate Fudge Cake, Sweet Potato Pie, and Apple Cinnamon Pie prepared by pastry chefs Kiki and Jessa. Earlier in the day, Dr. Brenda Dixon-Gottschild led a body movement workshop titled "Stripping the Emperor: Africanisms in American Performance". Gottschild enlighted Lecturer in Dance Penny Campbell's class on the appreciation of differences in dance and the meaning of syncretism in cultural dance forms.

These are just tidbits of a very successful black history month and not at all a full summary of both day's events, but a small recognition is better than nothing. Many thanks to all that joined us in the celebration of this month and to African American Alliance Executive Board (sophomore Alexis Zain, senior Kudzai Zvoma, and Juan) for constant dedication. Hopefully in future years, more departments outside the Center for Campus Activities, and those already mentioned above, will contribute to making Black History Month very special to all. Black History is a huge part of American, African and Caribbean History. Please don't forget that! African American Alliance will be holding it's annual COMEDY JAM Saturday, March 15, 2003 in McCullough, and we would love to hear about our show in *The Campus*.

*Kiki Taylor, a senior from Rye, New York, is the President of the African American Alliance.*

### *Features Editor's Note*

I apologize for the misunderstandings and miscommunication that surrounded the Black History Month Coverage in the features section of *The Middlebury Campus*, Feb. 26. Apologizes go to Kiki Taylor for misrepresentation by the features section in the article "Black History Month Celebrated with Lectures, Workshops and Coffee" and for attributing information to her without expressed permission. Her work on the events of Black History Month deserves commendation. I further promise to ensure better accuracy and coverage.

—Caroline Stauffer

### *Editor's Note*

*The Middlebury Campus* sincerely apologizes to Kiki Taylor. An opinions submission by Taylor was improperly used in the article "Black History Month Celebrated with Lectures, Workshops and Coffee" that ran in *The Campus*, Feb. 26 , page 15. *The Campus* does not endorse this type of reporting. It is not taught by the senior editors and *The Campus* will endeavor to promote improved attribution in all its articles.

The Middlebury Campus

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# What About Bob?

**By Bob Wainwright**
Columnist

I Pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under…

*Whoaa! Hold on a second there. I know exactly where you're going with that, and I don't like it one bit. You saying the G-word in public is nothing less than a condemnation of my personal decision to be an atheist.*

Wha? Huh? What are you talking about? Who do you think you are anyway?

*Who do I think I am? You know exactly who I am. You've known me for years. Perhaps I should refresh your memory.*

Go ahead. The column's yours.

*I'm the guy who sued McDonalds because their hamburgers made me fat, and before that because their coffee spilled on my lap while I was driving. I'm the person who only swipes one of my fifteen items at the self-check-out counter of the grocery store. And I'm the catcher who sued his youth league baseball coach in 1999, because we ended the season 0-15.*

*I'm the reason why you now need to pay first at most gas stations. And I'm also the inspiration behind the signs in restaurants that read, "Rest Rooms for Customers Only." I'm the kid who watches dangerous stunts on television and then attempts them in my back yard. And I once changed my name to Jackass and then sued MTV for stealing it from me.*

*I helped drive up your insurance rates by suing my doctor for undue stress after she told me I needed more tests. I also took 2 million dollars from American Airlines after I was thrown from my seat during 28 seconds of turbulence. And I'm also responsible for the warning label on their peanuts, which read, "Open packet, eat nuts."*

*I'm the employee who injured his back opening a jar of pickles and then retired on the settlement money. Since then, I've become the consumer responsible for a number of warning labels. They include Sears hairdryers: "Do not use while sleeping;" Superman Halloween costumes: "This garment does not enable you to fly;" Nytol sleep aids: "Warning — may cause drowsiness;" and one I'll never forget, Swedish chainsaws: "Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals."*

You're despicable. How is it that you're allowed to exist? Why haven't you been banished to some distant island in the middle of nowhere?

*Simple. You see my friend in the corner over there? The well-groomed guy in the nice clothes, who looks like he can do no wrong? Well, his name is Democracy. I trail him wherever he goes and he protects me, even when he doesn't want to.*

I still think I'm going to punch your teeth into your throat.

*Fine with me. I could use the cash. In fact, why don't you do it while I smile and say, "subpoena?"*

# Students Bring Global AIDS Campaign To College

Khairani Barokka
*Staff Writer*

The average Middlebury College student has probably heard plenty about HIV/AIDS and knows it is a global pandemic. But how many people here can really explain what HIV/AIDS is and the different ways it's transmitted? How many know how the real extent of the AIDS problem – most importantly, how many know what it takes to stop it? If the passionate members of the new Students Against Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC) Middlebury chapter have their way, by the end of this year many more of us will know enough to genuinely care about this dire issue, and take a stand.

The modern scourge in the world today is HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and fatal AIDS (acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome). AIDS emerges in the late stages of the HIV virus. 40 million people in the world today carry HIV — and all of these people will die premature deaths.

Every day, 14,000 more are infected with HIV. The virus has caused 13 million children to be orphaned.

SGAC's constitution was only just approved in January, but already they have attended a national conference and returned with even more ideas to add to the long list this ambitious group has made to get the above statistics and associated problems out into the open.

Courtesy

*Members of Middlebury's newly-founded Students Against Global AIDS Campaign chapter gathered in Washington, D.C., last weekend.*

It all started when Elizabeth DiCioccio '06 heard of SGAC, the nationwide campaign founded in February 2001 that now has members in 188 institutions, many who have taken on global youth leadership roles. She and fellow student Jamie Hess '03 organized a meeting on Jan. 22 to start a chapter of SGAC. This drew the attention of about 25 people, all of whom were excited to learn of the campaign's national conference which was held from February 28 to March 3 in Washington, D.C.

Last week, 16 SGAC members traveled down with the Williams College chapter to the nation's capital for the event, and found themselves in the presence of such figures as Scott Evertz, President Bush's Special Advisor to the Secretary for Global HIV/AIDS Initiatives, actor Rupert Everett, and even a taped message to conference-goers from U2 star Bono.

Among other things, each Middlebury SGAC member chose to attend four out of 46 workshops offered on everything from "Corporations, AIDS and Equal Healthcare", "Working with the News Media", and attended three formal plenary sessions, where students took the mike to grill Evertz, Everett and other speakers.

> It doesn't mean that it's a non-issue in the world just because it's a non-issue at Midd. The problem of AIDS hasn't gotten smaller just because we don't hear about it.
>
> — Nathaniel Marcus '04

SGAC member Nicole Maddox '06 glowingly described the conference as, "Overwhelming. There was such a spectrum of information."

Maddox has returned to Middlebury determined to get more of her peers up to speed on the AIDS issue, particularly political aspects of the epidemic. "I really just want to spread general knowledge at Middlebury about what's happening — the better we can buttress this problem with intelligent people," she said, admitting that despite a few knowledgable about the politics of the issue, "I don't think a lot of people hear a lot about the role of multinational corporations, about channeling money to affected countries, even the role campaign finance reform has."

Fellow member Nathaniel Marcus '04 agrees that there is a general lack of awareness on campus, but saying, "It doesn't mean that it's a non-issue in the world just because it's a non-issue at Midd. The problem of AIDS hasn't gotten smaller just because we don't hear about it. We're trying to help millions of people around the world."

Of course, Marcus and SGAC sound very idealistic. Realistically, how much of a chance do two dozen students in Vermont have of affecting global or even national AIDS policy?

Marcus and Maddox both had very optimistic answers. "Students and NGOs [non-governmental organizations] are actively campaigning. Without NGOs putting pressure on the government, they wouldn't implement certain policies. They are giving impetus for the government to act on HIV/AIDS," Marcus said. "I think we as youth are the driving force of this nation," Maddox agreed, "We may be a small college, but from the unity and cohesion of many colleges we can do a lot."

SGAC at Middlebury is planning many different awareness activities in the year ahead, from showcasing the experiences and perceptions of AIDS from students who've returned from study abroad, to a mini-symposium on AIDS tentatively scheduled for early May. They also feel confident about keeping their current momentum going to last all year and beyond. "We had a lot of people who attended our meeting," Marcus said, "and 16 people came to Washington, which was a really cool bonding experience. That's a lot more than the participants at other colleges.

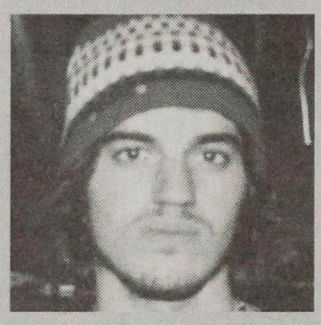
Also, many members are freshmen and Feb freshmen — we've got the ball rolling." Five young people are affected with the HIV virus every minute. As the clock ticks for them, here's hoping that this national campaign will affect positive change – and that students at Middlebury will be able to play a part.

# CAMPUS VOICES

## What's the worst part about the Enhanced Access System?

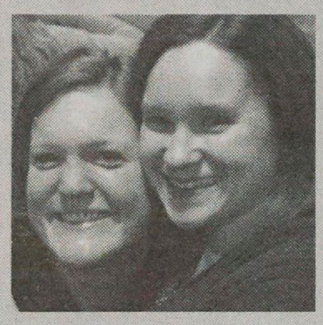
Compiled by Matt Christ

Photos by Schuyler Van Horn



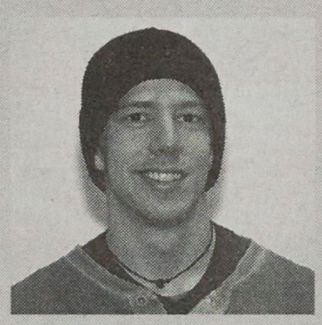
"My card is still in my mailbox."

—Danny Greenstein '05



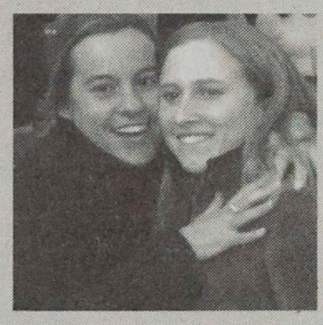
"You can't get into your dorm after the walk of shame."

—Bernadette Gunn '04
Lanford Beard '04



"Having to butt-hump the door to get inside."

—Will Cleveland '04



"When I want to crawl into her room and snuggle, I can't."

—Alex Russell '04
to Jessica Peterson '04

# The Buzz on Bringing Shade-Grown Coffee to Campus

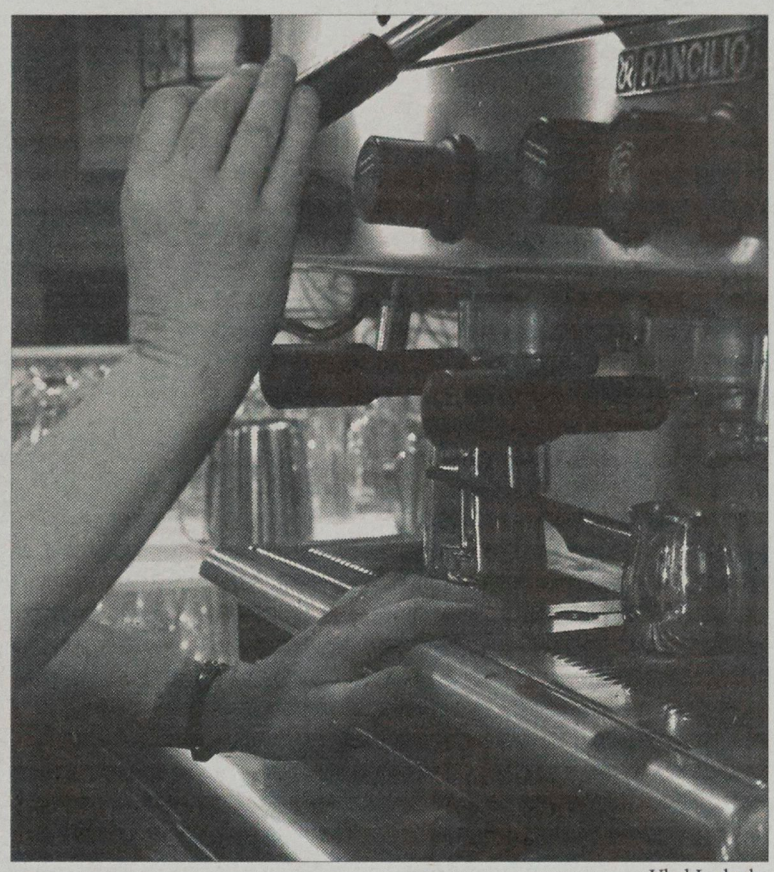
By Caroline Stauffer
*Features Editor*

For many students, coffee is a key ingredient to surviving college. Between coffee purchased at The Grille and consumed at the dining halls, Middlebury College purchases thousands of pounds of coffee each year. Thus, it makes sense that an initiative to improve the environment and reduce poverty through coffee consumption would interest students.

This is exactly what Stephanie Dosch '05 is trying to do with her initiative to educate students about and increase the consumption of shade grown and/or Fair Trade Certified coffee on campus.

Shade grown coffee is naturally grown. Coffee grows best in the shade of trees in the rainforest. Since the 1970s, however, coffee has been grown in sunlight with the use of chemicals. Reverting back to shade growth ensures that fewer trees are cut down, thus preserving natural habitats. Many people agree that shade-grown coffee tastes better because the beans take longer to ripen and few or no chemicals are used. It also keeps pesticides and chemicals out of the Earth, resulting in healthier communities.

Fair Trade Certified Coffee guarantees that coffee is purchased from farmers at a minimum price of $1.26 per pound. It also forms cooperatives between farmers for maximum benefits and eliminates middlemen who take more money away from the farmers. Consumers can recognize Fair Trade Certified Coffee because of the certification label on the package.




Vlad Lodoaba

*Stephanie Dosch '05 and Nathaniel Marcus '04 are leading a campaign to get shade-grown coffee to be served with greater regularity at The Grille and permanently in the dining halls.*

To see how changing the growth and distribution of a single commodity such as coffee could make a significant impact, one only has to look at some figures concerning coffee consumption.

Approximately 25 million small farmers grow 70 percent of the world's coffee. Although Brazil leads the world in coffee production, followed by Vietnam, the bean is grown all over the world.

The United States is the world's largest buyer of coffee, and four American companies (Proctor and Gamble, Kraft, Sarah Lee and Nestle) together purchase half of the world's coffee.

Despite the popularity of coffee, the world market is in crisis. It has declined 70 percent since 1997. Small coffee farmers do not make a profit without the fair trade guarantee. According to Oxfam America, the average coffee farmer earns less than $3 a day, less than many Americans drop on a single purchase at Starbucks.

Dosch became interested in shade grown coffee during high school. Dosch has always had an interest in birds, and since one of the benefits of shade grown coffee is to preserve forests that provide home to birds as well as many other species, she pursued the growth of shade grown coffee in an extensive senior research project paper. She has even worked for the Northwestern Shade Coffee Company through the Seattle Audubon Society.

Along with Nathaniel Marcus '04, Dosch is pursuing an initiative to have shade-grown and/or fair trade coffee served in The Grille and eventually even in the dining halls at the College. At this point, Dosch is unsure of exactly what the initiative seeks to accomplish, but has several ideas. While The Grille sometimes serves fair trade and/or shade-grown coffee, Dosch would like to increase awareness of this kind of coffee and increase the amount that is served at The Grille, noting that more coffee is consumed at The Grille than in the dining halls. Like many companies, New England Coffee Company, which produces the coffee served in the dining halls, sells Fair Trade Certified coffee. Dosch has requested that the dining halls make serving this kind of coffee a priority but reports that Dining Services has stated that the demand for it must increase. Thus, other goals of the initiative include educating students about fair trade and/or shade-grown coffee to increase its demand.

Related to this initiative, Middlebury College Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez '71 co-owns Café Alta Gracia, a 60-acre farm in her homeland of the Dominican Republic. The farm's goal is "to produce specialty coffee from used-up pasture land, using organic methods," according to www.cafealtagracia.com. The farm encourages other farmers to practice "old methods" of shade growing coffee. Before coffee is planted, shade and fruit trees that will protect and enrich the soil are planted, attracting birds and insects and sheltering the coffee plants without unnatural chemicals.

"I think it would be really cool to serve her coffee here," Dosch said.

A meeting is planned for 8 p.m. Thursday in Pearson's Lounge to further discuss goals for the coffee initiative on campus. All interested students are invited to attend.

"This project is something easy. No one has to stop drinking coffee and nothing is sacrificed. It makes a lot of sense in a lot of ways," Dosch said.

# Digital Bridges Links Students to Jobs

By Chelsea Coffin
*Staff Writer*

DigitalBridges2.0, a student-faculty organization, prepares Middlebury students for leadership with valuable real-world experience, one of the five peaks of excellence as laid out by President John McCardell in a 1994 speech.

In January 2000, D.K. Smith Professor of Applied Economics Michael Claudon spearheaded DigitalBridges2.0 with his Winter Term class and a weekend conference on the emerging Internet economy. Today, Claudon directs this program which provides real-world experience and network opportunities to students and alumni and support to early-stage companies in Vermont.

"Michael wants to give students a real-life experience," said Liz Robinson '84, also a director of DigitalBridges2.0. Students get this experience from consulting early stage companies, completing externships and attending conferences with Middlebury alumni, parents and friends.

The most unique aspect of DigitalBridges2.0 is Middlebury Solutions Group (MSG), the only undergraduate consultant group in the country. Today, MSG is comprised of 10 students, including leaders Laura Woodward '03 and Dave Greiner '03. These students from Claudon's Competitive Strategies economics class become venture coaches to an early stage Vermont company, providing advice on the business plan, value proposition, financial analysis, market research, marketing and building management teams.

Vlad Lodoaba

*Stewart Lane, Media Services technician prepares for the Digital Bridges 2003 conference during Winter Term.*

The students' work culminates at the biannual Entrepreneur's Forum. The client companies make pitches to a panel of institutional and other investors and members of the Middlebury community. The starter companies receive feedback, visibility, networking and possible funding. "It's so unusual with what we can give students in terms of real-world experience and what we can give Vermont businesses," says Robinson.

The program also offers three-day externships over fall and spring breaks to sophomores by a lottery system. The externships give younger students a chance to shadow Middlebury alumni, parents and friends in their work environment, which varies among business, professional firms, the arts, nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations.

DigitalBridges2.0 organizes conferences every year in Middlebury, Boston, New York and San Francisco. The Middlebury conference provides two days of discussion to explore the new issues in the economy, as well as interaction with accomplished people. In the past, guests have included Middlebury alums such as Frank Sesno '77 of CNN. In the other cities, DigitalBridges2.0 forms

*(see DigitalBridges2.0, page 17)*

## Holt's Harangue

**By Christian Holt**
*Staff Writer*

I want to get a haircut.

For men, getting a haircut is like robbing a bank: get in, get out, as little blood as possible.

For girls like my sister, it's a bi-weekly life-changing event. They ask each other, "Should I keep it up, or down? Should I get streaks? Should I get a 'Hillary Clinton'?" They then seek answers to these questions from mothers, girlfriends and, of course, *Cosmo.* They don't want a guy's opinion, because let's face it, we suck at this stuff. We don't look at the hair, so you could have a venomous koala up there and we would be none the wiser.

So asking my sister whether or not I should get a haircut was a bad idea. She told me that women think that long hair is a sign of sensitivity and sexiness. I'm sorry, ladies, but I just have to stay true to myself. I am neither of those things. I'm a humorist, dang nab it, not Brad "I excrete my own form of kitchen grease" Pitt. So don't expect me to be sexually appealing or capable to pull off the "vacant" look. If you want a humor writer with long hair, go check out Dave Barry. He looks like a drunken Edward Scissorhands cut his mop.

My sister also told me that upturned collared shirts are really "hip" now. I never understood how a part of the body could be acquainted with coolness. Let's see what would happen if we replaced the word "hip" with some other parts of the anatomy: "Hey Joe, you look real gallbladder in that shirt!" "Janet, that dress is positively armpit!" And, in my opinion, every guy with an upturned collar looks real sphincter.

To some women, nothing says "I'm a wild man," like a polo shirt with its collar turned up. Apparently, we have nothing here at Middlebury but "wild men." But wait, maybe I'm being too hasty. Citizens of the Arctic (a tropical climate compared to Vermont) have hairy chests to serve as insulation against the cold, so maybe my sister has a point. Long hair could be practical during this glacial winter.

But I own a jacket, so I asked her why I should bother with the long hair. I explained to her that long hair is just so much harder to maintain. I would actually have to make a concerted effort while showering in the morning. Right now, like most guys, I usually don't wake up focused enough to complete the complicated lather, rinse, repeat. I go in there, pour on the shampoo, body soap, toothpaste and aftershave. Every morning, I smell so tingly fresh that I sweat mouthwash. But with the long hair, the aftershave may get caught in the mess and I may lose a shampoo bottle up there or something. I don't want to even think about combing that rat's

*(see Harangue, page 17)*

# African Symposium: Negotiating the Future

By Charlie Goulding
*Staff Writer*

This weekend marked the ninth annual African Symposium. Spanning three days from Thursday to Saturday, the symposium featured three lecturers, a dinner of African cuisine, a student-led panel discussion, a drumming and dance workshop and, finally, a concert. By all accounts the symposium was a success, largely due to high student turnout and dedicated preparation by UMOJA, the group that organized the event.

UMOJA, which means "unity" in Swahili, came to fruition in 2001 and represents African students. Prior to UMOJA, the symposium had formerly been organized by a number of African students and was thematically restricted to the area of Sub-Saharan Africa — the primary region of concern of the symposium's founder, Ben Gyepi-Garbrah '93. This is the first year the symposium has been organized by UMOJA, which chose to expand the event to include all of Africa.

Each year, the organizing body of the symposium chooses a particular theme around which to mold the symposium in order to direct attention to a particular area of concern in Africa. Past topics have included: "Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Framework for Survival," and "African Health: Present Pain, Future Health?" The topic chosen for this past weekend was: "Power and the State in Africa: Negotiating the Future."

The topic is an apt one considering the difficulties many African states have faced in the post-colonial era. The hardships of building and maintaining a new political, social and economic infrastructure subsequent to independence permeate much of the continent to this day.

The symposium began with a lecture on Thursday afternoon by John Spencer, professor emeritus of history and College trustee, entitled "The Future of Africa through the Lens of the Past."

Spencer's talk divided the stages of many post-colonial African states into two stages: an initial atmosphere of hope and optimism immediately following independence, and an ensuing period of disillusionment which has enveloped much of the continent. According to Spencer, the disillusionment many Africans maintain towards the prospects of a successful, independent state, can be attributed to three things: corrupt leadership, the residue of colonial power and static boundaries between nations. These boundaries have remained rigid and immutable despite the chaotic state of flux which defines the internal conditions of a number of African nations.

The reasons given by Spencer for disillusion and instability in Africa generated much student response and some criticism. Kaleb Tamiru '03 noted, "The impression I got, and the impression most of the people I talked to got, was that the beginning and the end of the story was corruption. 'New leaders aren't ready to pick up the responsibility.' I think he neglected to mention other problems, specifically external issues generated by the world community."

Among those external issues, the role of the World Bank and the IMF in creating a world economy unamenable to the stabilization of developing African nation-states is often suggested.

Spencer went on to discuss Africa from the perspective of American intervention. "Are we wasting our time?" he boldly inquired. Before answering this question, Spencer indicted American foreign policy for having "no overall, consistent policy toward Africa." With this in mind, Spencer asserted that indeed, America should remain involved in the development of Africa for three reasons: development stabilizes the surrounding area, as well as the world community; stability leads to security, an issue that has risen to the forefront of American consciousness recently; and the potential for markets in Africa remains promising.

On the second day of the symposium, Northwestern University Professor William Reno gave a speech entitled "Western African Conflicts and Prospects for Resolution." Reno affirmed the aptness of the symposium topic considering the media attention given to areas such as Guinea-Bisseau, Liberia and Nigeria. He went on to suggest that the troublesome experience of post-colonial Africa "casts doubt upon the viability of the state system."

Reno primarily attributed the failure of the state system in many African countries to the development of what he termed the "shadow state." In many instances, once African states regained their independence, the ruling elite "turned legitimate stages into facades in order to build extensive patronage networks." Social services, in turn, dissolve, and no semblance of a national army is able to materialize under such coercive, fragmented control. Africa's youth, in turn, become "foot soldiers at the bottom of patronage politics" and "would- be warlords." Moreover, the lack of a national army makes insurgence from neighboring states a constant threat.

While Reno did call attention to "global causes" of state failure, the thrust of his argument for external factors fell solely upon France, whom he indicted for a "tacit alliance with state decay in Liberia."

Reno was followed by Georgia State University Professor Guy Martin,who gave a talk entitled "Re-thinking the African State in the Pan-Africa Perspective." His speech was a synopsis of a recent article published in Black Renaissance Magazine.

Martin first called attention to the well-documented but underappreciated reality that Africa is in a serious crisis. "In the Congo alone, the death toll since 1998 exceeds three million people." He also cited AIDS, famine, war and economic downturn as overwhelming sources of pain and suffering.

Secondly, Martin asserted that while leaders are often the focus of expert analysis, the people of Africa are the victims of these tragedies and are too often overlooked.

Martin subsequently called for a new paradigm to the African system, and passionately stipulated that the paradigm "must allow Africa to solve its problems the African way." Martin termed this paradigm shift a "Renaissance" and remarked that it must entail reconstruction based on African traditions, history and culture; its solutions must come from the African people; the AIDS and educational crises must be resolved and women need to be put at the center of this development.

Virtually all attendees of these two lectures, as well as the previous one, agreed that the speeches were highly informative and called attention to areas of serious import in Africa. Jasmin Johnson '05 noted, "The symposium covered some very important topics which I think were fantastic to be discussed."

The one deficiency of the lectures appeared to be a lack of practical, specific paradigms for improvement. "I thought the [last two] lectures were really theoretical," commented Freeman White '03. "They addressed a lot of concerns, but didn't show any practical applications for solving the predicament in Africa."

Dinner that evening was held in Redfield Proctor and featured an array of African Cuisine. The dinner was by reservation only and was set up in such as way so as to promote discussion and interaction among students and faculty alike. Johanna Opot '05 enjoyed the opportunity to discuss various issues with new people and took a particular liking to the chicken in peanut butter sauce.

The panel discussion on Saturday combined the thoughts and experiences of the three lecturers as well as three Middlebury students: Anywhere Sikochi '05 of Zimbabwe, Leah Okollu '04 of Kenya and Paul Opare-Addo '04 of Ghana. The panel was moderated by Kudzai Zvoma '03.

When asked about the prospects of the future in her country, Okullo responded, "Despite growing up thinking politics were a big joke, my opinion is changing due to some small but very important changes." Leah's remarks reflected the "moderately hopeful" outlook manifest in the panel as a whole.

The symposium concluded with a drumming workshop, held by a Senegalese band called Gokh-Bi System (Neighborhood System) who later performed in the McCullough Social Space. The band's music consisted of a hybrid between traditional West African sounds and "global rhythms," and was extremely well received.

The members of UMOJA drafted a response to the symposium in which they were resoundingly positive about the event. "The symposium went better than we had expected — it appealed to a larger audience and received active participation." The Thursday and Friday lectures alone received 83 attendees and 66 attendees respectively.

UMOJA received crucial support from many of its members, as well as Professor of Sociology David Eaton (UMOJA's faculty adviser), Professor Jacob Tropp, Spencer Fellow in African Studies, as well as Michael Sheridan, visiting associate professor of sociology and anthropology. UMOJA also credited the Office of Public Affairs with providing a strong foundation for the symposium by publicizing it well.

"It was a truly rewarding experience... I am excited about the growing participation of UMOJA members and anticipate an even better symposium next year," concluded Zvoma. Zvoma also cited Alice Quist '03 and Keitha McFarlane '03 as being integral components to the weekend's success.

Peter Viola

*The African Symposium held this past weekend included a panel discussion with guest speaker Guy Martin, professor at Georgia State University, pictured far left. Martin and Kuzai Zuoma '03 (center) led the discussion, which was introduced by Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology & Anthrolpology, Michael Sheridan, far right.*

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# Middlebury Students Grace the Small Screen

By David Barker
*Staff Writer*

The plot of FX's new drama, "The Shield," might revolve around one cop's fight against drugs and crime in Los Angeles, but usually, the drug dealers aren't Middlebury students. During Winter Term, Zach Ambrose '03 almost was.

Growing up in Helena, Montana, Courtney Hess '03 didn't have the opportunity to be a mall rat. However, when she was recently in charge of buying the clothes for the actors on "Law and Order: Criminal Intent" with a $16,000 budget, she became one.

As the majority of Middlebury students entered into skiing hibernation during Winter Term, Hess and Ambrose, both film majors, departed for opposite coasts to pursue their interests and gain experience as interns on the sets of two of the hottest television dramas.

Ambrose, who is currently working on a documentary film about taxes in his home state, New Hampshire, flew to Los Angeles after New Years to join Middlebury alumnus Shawn Ryan '88, the creator of "The Shield." In only its second season, the show won the Best Television Series Drama and lead actor Michael Chiklis picked up Best Actor at the 2003 Golden Globe Awards. In addition to being the creator, Ryan makes the key decisions for every episode as chief screenwriter and director.

Hess's long-standing penchant for costume design found her in New York City on the set of NBC's "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" for three weeks, a show that follows the job of a homicide detective (Vincent D'Onofrio). Working alongside the principal costumers, Hess bought the needed outfits for each show and then fitted the actors. "The first day was a whirlwind tour of all the department stores in New York," she said.

Ambrose's first day served as an indicator of the behind the scenes and inner-circle access he would receive as an intern. All the writers were plotting the direction of the next episode as Ambrose walked in. "It was kind of surreal," he said. One of the main writers gave Ambrose an introduction to the business, explaining the importance of capturing the intended emotion of the script during shooting. "Skeeter [the writer] told me that writers have been let go in the past for their inability to sufficiently realize the planned story," he said.

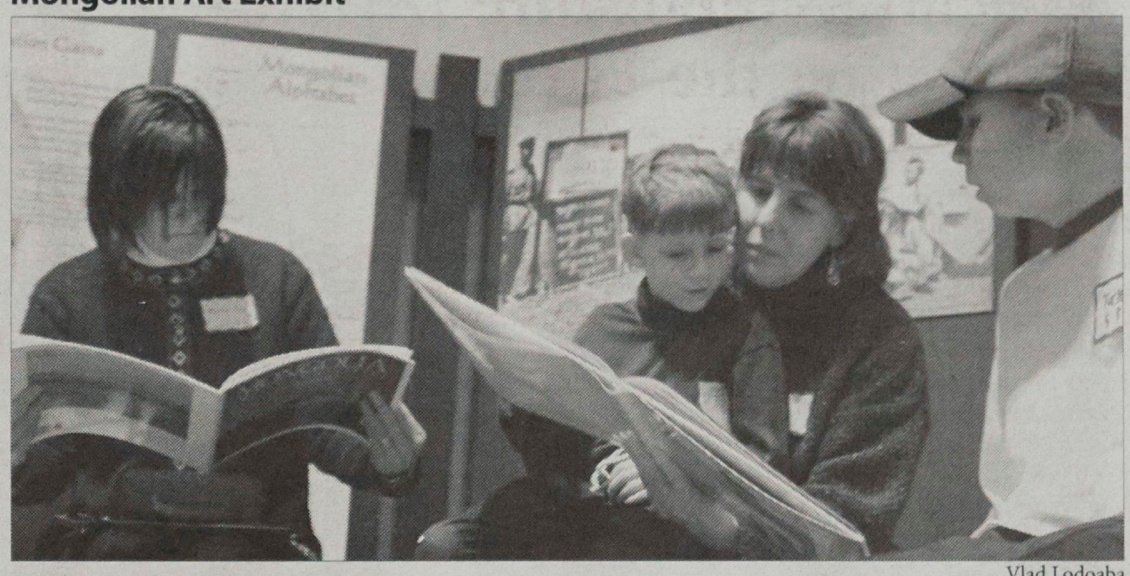
Learning about the television writing process was simply one aspect of the internship. Without one specific duty for the three weeks, Ambrose was able to witness all phases of production, a rare opportunity in the exclusive environment of Hollywood. "I could go any place on the set," he said. Observing things like sound editing, casting and shooting enhanced his appreciation for the time put in by the various crews. When on deadline, shooting sometimes lasted until 4 or 5 a.m. Ambrose even tasted the Hollywood lifestyle during a red carpet premiere of "The Shield's" second season. An afterparty brought him face to face with several directors. The opening episode, which aired nationally the next night, would set a record for the number of viewers on basic cable.

Hess also gained access to more than the copy and coffee machines. "I was really hoping they wouldn't stick me next to a phone," she said. Often, the other designers took an interest in Hess's opinion. "It was nice they asked me what I was thinking," she said. During the eight days of taping for each episode, it wasn't uncommon for Hess to put in over 10 hours a day. Even though her duties might have been completed for the day, she sometimes stayed at the Manhattan studio to absorb the environment and to wait for, as she said, "something cool to happen."

The internships might have been brief in duration, but both Hess and Ambrose hope to continue to accumulate more experience. Hess, who has designed the costumes for the Dance Department at Middlebury, has two vague pictures of her future. One takes her back to New York to try her hand as an assistant director, while the other has her returning to Italy, where she studied abroad. "I feel there are so many exciting things to do," she said.

Ambrose admits he'd be more interested in doing documentary work than writing screenplays. A Los Angeles cab driver told him that that 99.9 percent of aspiring directors and actors who come to Hollywood fail. Observing the directors on "The Shield" allowed him to formulate a possible plan for success in the business. "I got a pretty good feel for L.A., and I was starting to get a sense of how Hollywood works and how I could chip out a niche for myself there if I were to return," he said. And with a little help from Middlebury, it's safe to say it won't be as a drug dealer.

**Mongolian Art Exhibit**



Vlad Lodoaba

***Offering a rare glimpse of Mongolian culture,*** the Middlebury College Museum of Art hosted a "Traveling to Mongolia" exhibit this Saturday for local parents and their children.

# Holt's Harangue on Haircuts

*(continued from page 15)*

nest.

My sister told me that I was disgusting, and that girls have enough focus to wash their hair everyday. This is true, but if they are anything like my sister it takes them several hours to complete the process. A girl's morning bathroom ritual could only be timed on a sundial.

A guy's cleaning routine, on the other hand, takes approximately 2.4 to 3 minutes tops. Any longer, and the guy will get slapped with a wet towel, and farted on by other guys on the hall. It's a law.

To finish: I'm getting a haircut. It's not going to be "hip" or "cool" or even "sexy." But with it short, I don't run the risk of it being mistaken for a mullet.

That's a risk no man would want to run.

# DigitalBridges2.0 Forms Network

*(continued from page 15)*

alumni clubs that provide networking for students and alumni.

DigitalBridges2.0 is fast becoming a strong link between students, alumni and the Vermont community. It achieves its goal of "bridging the gap between thought and action," as stated by Claudon, through its hands-on experience and networking opportunities.

Upcoming events for DigitalBridges2.0 include a Boston conference on April 10 and an Entrepreneurs' Spring Forum and Boot Camp on April 26. Visit www.digitalbridges20.net for more information.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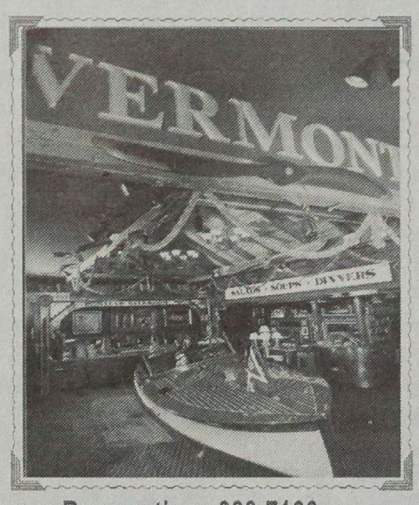


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## literary picks

By Edward Pickering
*News Editor*

### The Quiet American

by Graham Greene
William Heinemann, 1955

Graham Greene's "The Quiet American" strikes contemporary readers as a work of remarkable prescience.

Published in 1955, the novel unfolds in French-occupied Vietnam during the French Indochina War of 1946-1954. The main characters are Fowler, a veteran British journalist, middle aged and jaded, and Pyle, a callow but idealistic American operative. Pyle is one of the first American agents in Vietnam. His presence in the country anticipates the full-fledged American invasion. His actions anticipate the disastrous outcome of that invasion — death and destruction in the name of an ideal.

In the opening pages Fowler recalls his first glimpse of Pyle, newly arrived in southeast Asia: "I had seen him last September coming across the square [...] an unmistakably young and unused face flung at us like a dart. With his gangly legs and his crew-cut and his wide campus gaze he seemed incapable of harm."

The character of Pyle crackles with a tension between two seemingly opposite traits: innocence and harm. He is deadly innocent. He secretly aids a Vietnamese general whose faction espouses democracy — the catchword by which Pyle lives. He helps that General plan a bombing in a crowded market that kills innocent bystanders instead of the intended targets. Fowler confronts Pyle at the scene of the bombing. Dumfounded, Pyle regards the gore — wonders what the "wet" on his shoes could be. "Blood," replies Fowler, enraged.

The relationship that binds Pyle and Fowler together is an odd one. At first, it is friendship. Then, it darkens as Pyle wins Fowler's girl, a beautiful and deferential Vietnamese named Phuong. The method by which Pyle takes Phuong is startling. Pyle's motives are noble and unselfish, but agonizing for Fowler nonetheless. Pyle honestly believes that he, not Fowler, can best love and provide for Phuong.

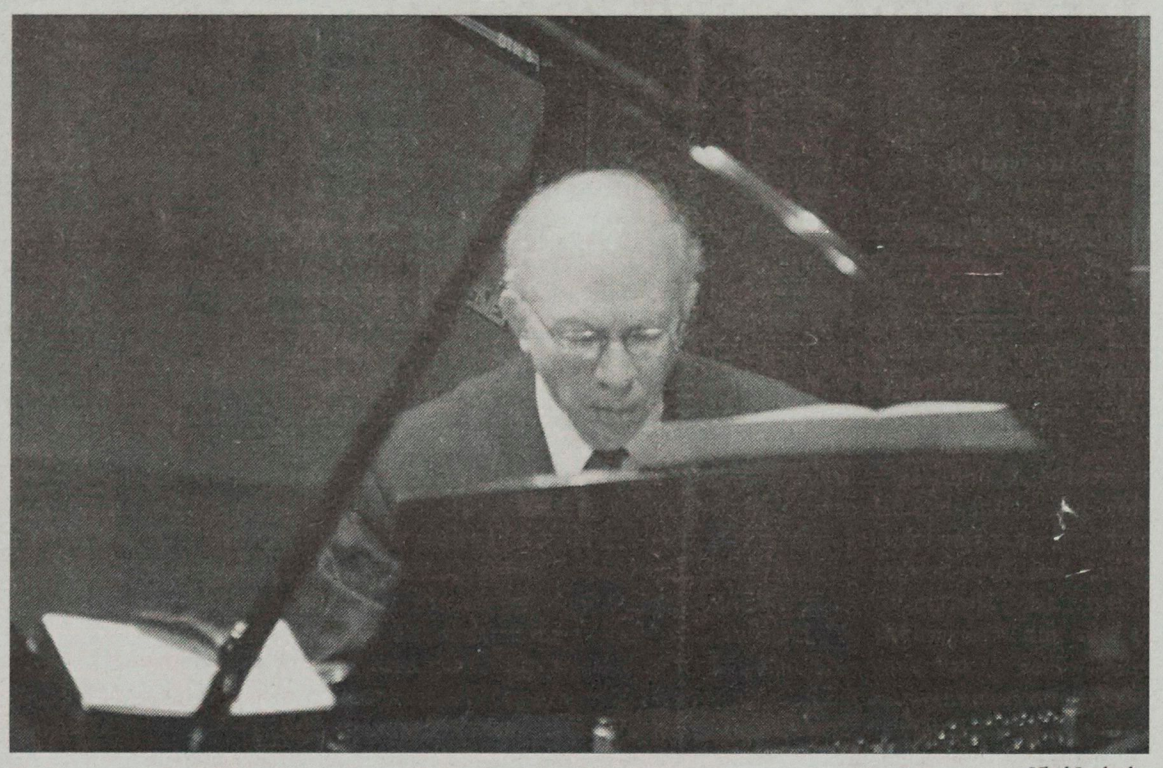
Set in an exotic locale and historically accurate, "The Quiet American" is a thriller of the first rank. Love and war intermingle in the ideologically charged story of Fowler, Pyle, Phuong and Vietnam.

In a telling scene toward the end of the novel Fowler speaks to Pyle about Phuong's desertion: "I hope to God you know what you are doing there. Oh, I know your motives are good, they always are [ . . .] I wish sometimes you had a few bad motives, you might understand a little more about human beings. And that applies to your country too, Pyle.'"

Pyle's deadly innocence deprives Fowler of his woman and a country of its self-determination.

# Sachs Journeys Through Modern Music

By Richard Lawless
*Staff Writer*



Vlad Lodoaba

*Julliard Professor Joel Sachs performs in the CFA concert hall Friday night.*

"Modern" was the key word in Joel Sachs' astounding performance at Middlebury's Center for the Arts this past Friday night.

The Julliard professor's repertoire for Friday's concert consisted solely of modern piano pieces, all written between the years of 1929 and 1996.

He began the concert with a selection of five pieces written by Leon Kirchner and played as one movement. The music began with a trickle of dissonance, which soon gave way to a flood of unusually organized notes.

The pieces did not have distinct melodies but were rather composed of usual chords played in strange rhythms that almost gave the impression of improvisation.

Sachs remarked on this characteristic of Kirchner's music in his program notes, writing that the pieces "defy analysis because of their spontaneous nature and unconventional architecture." There was a certain amount of restraint in the pieces by Kirchner, as the crescendos never quite swelled up to full volume.

Yet the movement was full of energy, seen clearly in Sachs' hands, which leaped across the piano and caused the music to swirl into a tempest of atonal chords.

Kirchner's pieces were followed by a selection of five short pieces by Roberto Sierra, entitled "Five Piezas Imaginarias."

Written in 1996 and pulled from a larger collection of 10 pieces, the five played by Sachs exhibited a similar atonal quality to the Kirchner selections yet were less restrained and delicate with dynamics, allowing the pianist to let loose.

The first piece made extensive use of the highest octave of keys, creating a piercing sound, especially when played forte.

The second piece began with a dissonant chord repeated by a swelling crescendo and was characterized by sudden bursts of notes.

Sierra's third piece began with a trickle of keys in the upper register of the piano and had a sudden, seemingly spontaneous ending.

The fourth piece opened with an otherworldly rumbling of notes that descended down the piano, later moving back up to the middle octave of keys.

Sachs concluded the set with Sierra's energetic fifth piece, which was distinguished by its parallel dissonant melodies played with each hand.

The next set of pieces was comprised of two canons, written by Conlon Nancarrow in 1989. Sachs took a moment to explain the complicated nature of Nancarrow's two pieces. The first canon had a musical ratio of seven to five.

This means that both hands were playing the exact same music, but the right hand was playing the music 1.4 times as fast as the left hand. Sachs began the piece, playing only the left hand for a minute or so, before bringing in the right hand.

Since the right hand was playing at a good clip faster than the left hand, it finished first, leaving the left hand to die out quietly. The second canon had a ratio of four to three, which meant that the right hand was playing roughly 1.33 times as fast as the left.

Just as in the first canon, the left hand started first, while the right patiently waited for its entrance. In this piece, however, instead of having the right hand finish earlier than the left hand, both hands finished at the same exact time, which was astonishing to hear and see.

Sachs started the second half of the concert with Stefan Wolpe's "Form IV - Broken Sequences." The piece was aptly named, as it had a fragmented nature with quick spurts of notes and sudden crescendos.

This piece was followed by Milton Babbitt's incredibly complex "Playing for Time," written in 1983, which Sachs played from memory. For his next piece, Sachs finally used the two massive speakers on the stage that curious audience members had probably been wondering about since they took their seats an hour before.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning piece, entitled, "Synchromisms No. 6, for piano and electronic sounds," written by Mario Davidovsky, involved Sachs playing music on the piano which was accompanied by pre-recorded electronic noises.

At times the piano and the ambient, harmonic electronic tones were in relative harmony, and at othertimes, fierce hisses and blips furiously contrasted with the notes played by Sachs.

This piece was followed by a trio of pieces by Henry Cowell,

*(see Sachs, page 20)*

## art calendar (hey, get outta town.)

### editor s pick

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND: Celebrate with Fernando Saunders and Rob Wasserman in an evening of music and poetry with Lou Reed, the legendary leader of The Velvet Underground. This band collaborated with Warhol in the 60s in a multimedia exhibit entitled The Exploding Plastic Inevitable, which provided the catalyst for this unbelievable show.
When: Wed., March 12, doors open at 7 p.m.
Where: Ira Allen Chapel, UVM, Burlington
Price: $39-$49
Info: (802) 86-FLYNN

### art

FETISH DOLLS FOR THE 21st CENTURY: The Amy E. Tarrant Gallery presents two completely unrelated artists. The photographs of Havana by David Garten stand beside Marie LaPre Grabon s fetish dolls and sculpture. This marriage of ideas results in quite an interesting exhibit.
When: March 7 - Apirl 30, Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Price: FREE!
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.org .

### writing

POETRY CONTEST: Poets from the Middlebury area are welcome to try to win their share of the $58,000 in prizes awared in the International Open Poetry Contes. Send one poem, 20 lines or less. Use a little heart, a little pain, a little love, or a few tears, and win a little cash.
When: June 20, 2003 deadline.
Price: FREE!
Where: www.poetry.com.

### theater

GROUNDHOG OPRY 2003 OPERA-HOUSE-AND-THEN-SOME-WORLD-TOUR: George Woodward and Al Boright present their variety show with a ho-down of country music and hayseed humor, something we could all use in this weather. Let s suck that rodent out of that hole and into the sunlight. This madness can t continue if we want to come out of this winter alive.
When: Sat., March 8.
Where: Vergennes Opera House.
Price: $10 at the door.

### music

STRANGEFOLK: 2 DAYS of this band!!! All kinds of music rock, folk, blues, bluegrass converge into these storytelling lyrics and unique melodies. College kids are driving from several states for this band and it s in your backyard.
When: Fri., March 7 - Sat., March 8 at 8 p.m.
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington
Price: $25 for two day pass.
Info: www.highergroundmusic.com

### dance

THE STOMACH NEVER LIES: Selene Colburn and Dominique Zeltman collaborate on feminist issues for a raw approach to dance that incorporates skilled technique, physical humor and pathos for a thought-provoking experience. These issues are now expressed in a new form.
When: Thurs., March 6 and Fri., March 7, at 8 p.m.
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington.
Price: $10 for student.
Info: www.flynncenter.com.

# 'Lysistrata' Mania Makes Its Way To Middlebury

By Laura Rockefeller
*Staff Writer*

On Monday, 1,004 theatre groups in 59 countries, including the Middlebury College Department of Theater, presented staged readings of the first anti-war play ever written: Aristophanes' "Lysistrata."

The worldwide event was set in motion by Kathryn Blume and Sharron Bower as a plea for peace in the current international situation.

The official Web site of the project explains that, "Though Lysistrata Project represents many individuals with a range of opinions, we all oppose a unilateral, pre-emptive attack on Iraq by the United States. We support the continued work of United Nations weapons inspectors."

Readings of the play were presented in such varied locations as the Refugee Camp of Kurds in Patra, Greece, and by Tehrik e Niswan (The Women's Movement) in Karachi, Pakistan.

The project made it possible for people all over the world to plead together for peace in the same words and on the same day, even though they have probably never met.

The Project first came to the attention of Middlebury Professor of Theatre Cheryl Faraone when she received an e-mail in mid-January from Christian Parker '93 telling her about the initiative.

She explained that she was excited by the idea, but other projects she was working on at the time put "Lysistrata" in the background. A little later she received a second e-mail from Vermont-based actress Janice Perry, asking whether the Middlebury Theater Department was involved in the project.

Faraone sent out an e-mail to Middlebury students and professors in the Department of Theater and Dance, and work on the Middlebury production of "Lysistrata" began.

The staged reading was presented in Wright Memorial Theatre on the partially finished set for the Theater Department's upcoming production of "Memorandum." As Faraone commented in her introduction to "Lysistrata," the stark wooden grid on the floor and the cavernous stage reaching behind the actors was "visually militaristic in a certain way" and allowed the audience's imagination to build the set of the Acropolis in their mind's eye.

There was no charge for the performance but, in accordance with the guidelines of the project, all of the audience members were invited to donate money to Move On, an Internet peace organization.

The atmosphere in the moderately filled theater was at ease but excited, as shown by the burst of applause that followed the announcement of the number of readings of "Lysistrata" that were taking place around the world and by the cheers that came at the reading's conclusion.

Any small slips that were made by the actors as they read were greeted by good-natured laughter from audience and performers alike, which made the theater seem much smaller and brought all of the people in the space together with a marvelous sense of amity.

Faraone had commented earlier, "Unfortunately most people who come will already agree with the premise." Although this might not have been ideal for starting a dialogue about the play and its message, it created a wonderful atmosphere at the performance.

*(see Arisophanes, page 20)*

Schuyler Van Horn

*A cast of students, faculty and community members brought Aristophanes' "Lysistrata" to life Monday night.*

# 'Y Tu Mama': Sexual Escapades and Social Critique

By Micheal Hatch
*Staff Writer*

"Y Tu Mama Tambien," written and directed by Alfonso Cuaron, is the raunchy yet touching look at the waning years of adolescence portrayed via the classic road trip, screened at Dana Auditorium on Saturday.

A pair of frantic goodbye-sex scenes opens the story and sets the theme at a teenage high-hormone pitch that holds through most of the movie. But before you get yourselves ready for a soft-porn rental, read on — the movie has a few more layers.

During those first scenes of graceless sex we are also introduced to the narrator. As the copulating pair Ana and Tenoch make their vows of faithfulness, "I promise you I will not f— any...," and chime together then alternatively, "Italians!" "Frenchmen!" "Brazilians!" "Chinamen!" the sound suddenly cuts out and the camera roams along with the voice of the narrator.

As the muted scene continues, we are shown how Tenoch's sexual relationship with Ana is not hindered by her middle-class psychologist father and his wife.

By this point, the camera has panned out of the bedroom, still deaf to the scene, and we explore the house with the narrator.

We move on to Julio's girlfriend's house, where the narrator informs us that the girl's father is less than thrilled by the lower middle class boy that his daughter, Cecilia, is seeing. Cecilia, along with Tenoch's girlfriend Ana, are both in the midst of packing for a summer vacation in Italy together, hence the goodbye sex.

With the pretense of finding a lost passport, Julio is finally admitted to his girlfriend's bedroom where the quick, comical sex scene transpires. On this note, the boys are left with a sexless summer to spend smoking pot, watching TV and masturbating at the country club pool on its vacant days.

This routine continues until they meet Luisa, the wife of Tenoch's unfaithful and pretentious cousin.

While drooling down her blouse at a family wedding, they tell her with idiotic charmlessness of "Heaven's Mouth," the beautiful unknown beach where they wish to take her. But she doesn't want to go, at least not until a visit to the hospital and a drunken phone call from her husband prime her.

With these two experiences in hand, she calls Tenoch, who is all too willing to give up a few days of his vapid existence to pursue the older beauty.

The two boys frantically pull together a plan and the road trip

*(see Jaws Drop, page 20)*

# Blowin' Indie Wind

## *'Red Devil Dawn' Sizzles with Bittersweet Emotion*

By Erika E. Mercer
*Arts Editor*

It is four o'clock in the morning and all of your party guests have retired, leaving you sitting alone in your room to view the mess of spilt drinks, strewn streamers, pretzel crumbs and deflated balloons.

You reflect on the successful party — its extravagance, its hilarity, its noise — with an increased sense of loneliness and solitude now that it has ended.

**The Artist: Crooked Fingers**
The Album: "Red Devil Dawn"
2003

Music still beats softly from your stereo, but it seems distant, belonging to another world of raised, laughing voices and festive banter.

Crooked Fingers, the newest project from underground music guru Eric Bachman, evokes just such a bittersweet mood in its newest album, "Red Devil Dawn."

The album, released on Jan. 21, 2003 under Merge Records label, marks Crooked Fingers' fourth release since the band's formation in early 2000.

Bachman, formerly the frontman in the now defunct Archers of Loaf — a mid-to-late 1990s indie rock band known for its noisy, raw sound — has established a reputation for his unique career, which, besides his work with Archers of Loaf and Crooked Fingers, includes performing as the neoclassical artist, Barry Black, and scoring the instrumental soundtrack, "Short Careers," to the film, "Ball of Wax."

Crooked Fingers — Bachman plus a rotating cast of other musicians — released its first album in January 2000 on WARM.

Recorded in Seattle, Wash., the self-titled debut shocked fans who had come to know Bachman as the loud, belting vocalist in Archers of Loaf.

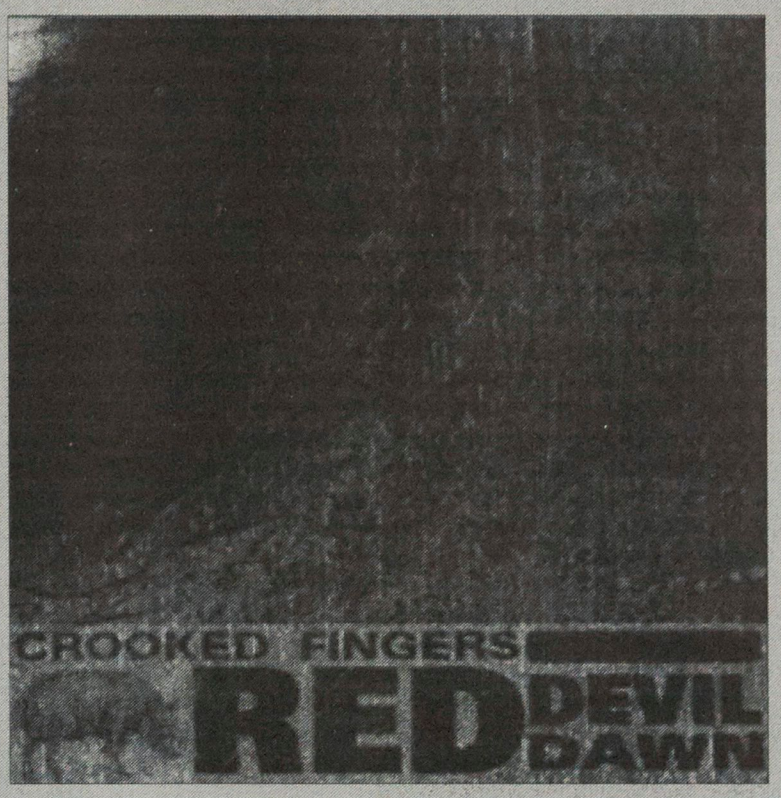
Subdued, melancholy songs characterized his new project, showing a much more private, reserved side of the indie artist. As opposed to the messy, discordant, Pavement-esque music of Archers of Loaf, Crooked Fingers adopted a folksy, poetic sound and showed a tendency for narrative lyrics — features which prompted references to Bachman as the new Bob Dylan. Critics lauded the release as a mature and significant step forward for Bachman.

In February 2001, Crooked Fingers released its sophomore album, "Bring On the Snakes," also on WARM, then several months later, in May 2002, its third album, a collection of cover songs — from Prince to Bowie to Springsteen — entitled "Reservoir Songs."

Both albums found immediate success, and the band continued working toward its fourth and most recent release, "Red Devil Dawn."

"Red Devil Dawn," released on Merge Records, continues in the

*(see Crooked, page 20)*



# Crooked Fingers Mixes Faith and Despair

(continued from page 19)
tradition of Crooked Fingers' previous albums, featuring Bachman's raspy, coarse voice — a voice that has provoked numerous comparisons to Tom Waits — catchy melodies, eccentric, slightly off-balance instrumentation and dark, melancholy lyrics.

The album diverges somewhat from the band's previous efforts, though, in its more noticeable and persistent beat of optimism, which forces its way out from beneath the album's sad, pessimistic overtones.

On "Red Devil Dawn," Bachman incorporates intricate horn and string arrangements, along with increased mandolin music, giving the album a warmer, and sometimes even markedly Mexican, feel.

In addition, many of the songs enjoy a quicker, more pop-sounding beat, which, rather than paralleling the heart-wrenching lyrics, effectively juxtaposes them.

On the first song, "Big Darkness," Bachman sings in his husky, tender voice of desperation and woe, of a hero who belatedly arrives in a town where "even the vultures have moved on," while the music bounces, upbeat, at times mimicking gentle carousel music.

The listener cannot resist tapping their foot to the beat, at the same time hearing, astounded, the dark, morbid lyrics: "I saw a vulture swarming up above a dying crowd / above the villains and the heroes and the down and out."

Other songs are slower and mellower, often approaching lullabies or ballads in their quietness and tenderness. Bachman complements the soft tone of these songs by flavoring them with faint hope and bittersweet dream. In "Disappear," the ninth song on the album, he sings, "There's beauty in an ugly thing / redemption in demise."

**Tune in to hear Crooked Fingers featured on WRMC 91.1:**
DJ: Richie Lawless
Show: "Smells Like College Radio"
Time: Thursday, March 6, from 8-10 p.m.
**Also, Crooked Fingers plays live next Tuesday, March 11, at Higher Ground in Burlington**

"Red Devil Dawn" is a poignant mix of faith and despair, loneliness and contentedness. It is an album for any mood — it will make you realize that you are alone, then it will make you realize that you are not. It will upset you and content you. It will remind you of happiness and glorify sadness. "Red Devil Dawn" is not to be missed.

Tune in to WRMC 91.1 this Thursday from 8-10 p.m. to hear Crooked Fingers featured, and make sure to check them out next Tuesday, March 11, at Higher Ground in Burlington. For more information, check out www. highergroundmusic.com.

# Aristophanes Classic Comedy Still Relevant

(continued from page 19)
A group of people had been brought together and was able, for once in this very tense time, to laugh at the foolishness of man.

The play tells the story of Lysistrata, a Greek woman, read by Perry, who decides to stop the war between Sparta and Athens by making all the women of the two city states go on a sex strike until the men agree to stop the fighting and make peace with each other.

At the beginning of the play, the women swear, "I will suffer no man, be he husband or lover, to approach me all hot and horny." The result is a hilarious comedy, but one that has some moments of very poignant commentary on the devastating effects of war.

The leader of the chorus of old women (Joya Scott '04) responds to one of the many derogatory comments directed at the women by the Magistrate (Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance Peter Schmitz) by saying, "I pay my share, for I contribute the men."

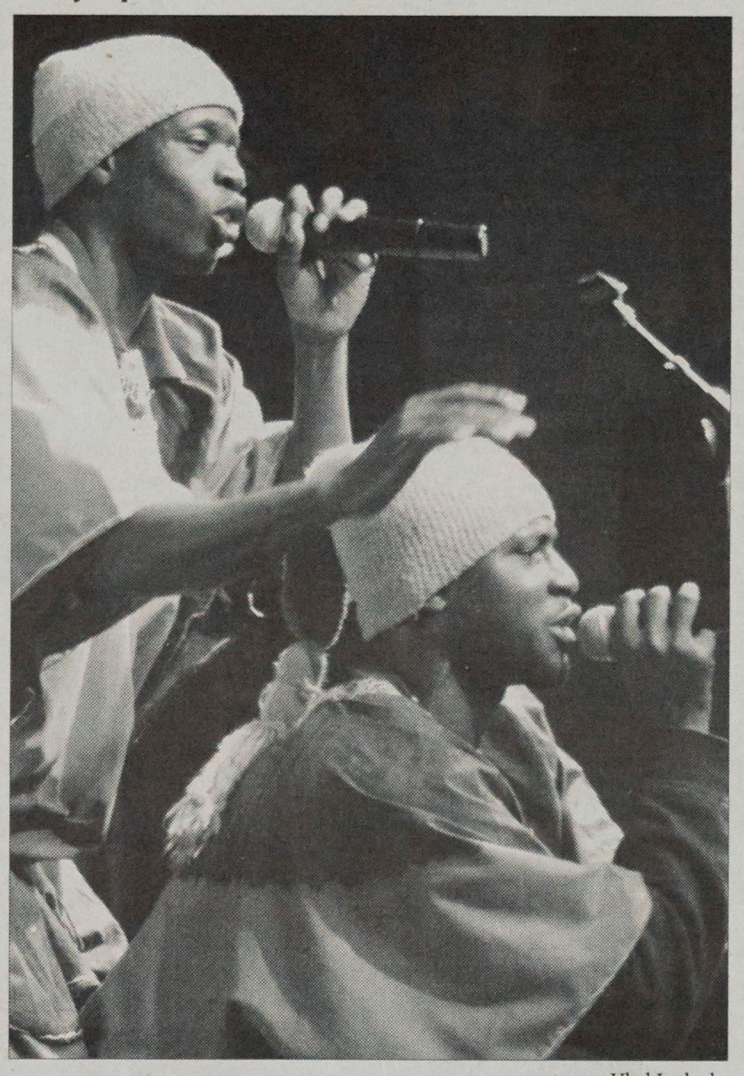
Described on the program as "a theatrical act of dissent," the play provoked the audience to ask themselves, in Lysistrata's words, "Why not make peace? Tell me. What prevents it?"

Faraone explained that, for her, the idea of the project was "that theatre is coming to the table — we should all be able to voice our opinions."

She commented in her introduction to the piece, "It is a very exciting thing to be part of such a world-wide initiative … what is particularly exciting for me is that art is part of the dialogue."

For more information about the Lysistrata Project, check out the official website at www.lysistrataproject.org.

## *Gokh-bi System* Concludes 9th Annual African Symposium: Power and the State of Africa



Vlad Lodoaba

**Concluding the 2003 African Symposium,** *Gokh-bi System, a five-person group, performed in McCullough on Saturday. Delving into the African roots of hip-hop and decidedly reclaiming them as their own, Gokh-bi System captures the ancient tradition of the troubadour storytellers. These narrators, referred to as "griots," expore both politics and Sengalese rap tradition with sense and smarts. Meaning "neighborhood system" in the Wolof language, Gokh-Bi System, along with members from the Jola, the Serer and the Wolof clans, plays multi-lingual global music. They performed in their "Ekonting Rap" style, which uses traditional drums, ekonting and both urban and village dance forms.*

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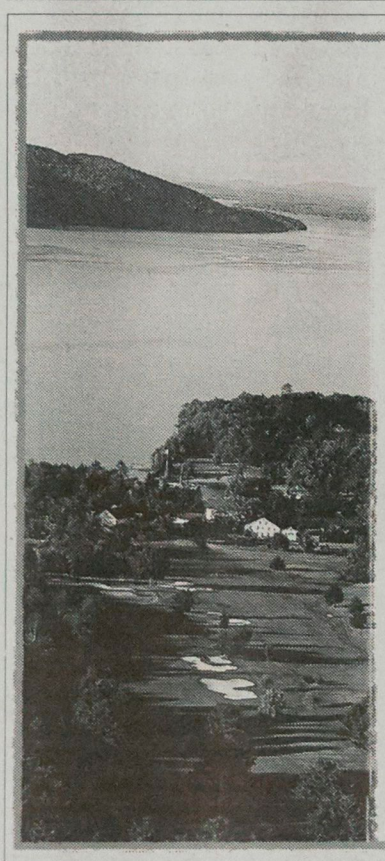
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# Jaws Drop at 'Y Tu Mama Tambien'

(continued from page 19)
moves forward, with Tenoch, Julio, Luisa and plenty of pent up sexual energy packed up in the back of a station wagon.

As our characters traipse through their flirtations and we learn about the Charolastra manifesto — a group of ideals for their friendship of Charolastras — the narrator constantly cuts the sound and chimes in the realities that are occurring beyond the slim boundaries of these mildly frustrated lives.

As the road tears on, the narrator recounts small and seemingly unrelated vignettes. For example, the narrator delves into a momentary glimpse of a blue cross on the side of the road. Had we had been there exactly 10 years earlier, we would have come across a gruesome accident scene with a mother grieving over her child, surrounded by crates of bloody, maimed chicken and an overturned truck.

Or he tells us about the woman who gives Luisa a stuffed animal labeled Luisita and of the woman's granddaughter of that name who had died crossing into Arizona from Mexico years ago.

While the sexual tensions build within the frame of the road trip, we are constantly reminded of the realities of rural Mexico in contrast to the lives of these more privileged youths.

Slowly the two realities begin to intersect, and the boys, who were at the beginning filled with narrow self-absorption, are forced to actually deal with the consequences of their actions.

Fights break out, friendships are broken, drunkenly mended and then quickly and surprisingly, or perhaps not so surprisingly, made awkward again.

Throughout the movie, Luisa retains our respect and the unnamed title of heroine. She is both the most sensitive character to the realities that surround her as well as the one whose primary issues become most central to the movie.

While raunchy humor and acute social commentary on class and priorities tinge "Y Tu Mama Tambien," Luisa's story holds the plot together in this movie — a movie well worth one's time.

# Sachs Fuses Music and Performance Art

(continued from page 18)
about whom Sachs currently is writing a book.

The first of the three, "Deep Color," made use of the lower octaves of the piano, creating grumbling noises that eventually gave way to consonant tones before erupting into a stormy climax of low notes.

For the second Cowell piece, "The Fairy Answer," Sachs stood, plucking and gliding his fingers across the strings of the piano, while alternately playing keys with his free hand.

The final Cowell piece, "Tiger," was a brief storm cloud of dissonance that involved Sachs crushing keys with his elbow and forearm at a violent tempo.

Sachs ended the evening on a light note, with Francis Schwartz's "Baudelaire's Uncle."

Written in 1980, Schwartz's composition was part musical piece, part performance art, as Sachs would randomly pause from his playing to turn to the audience and make growling noises.

At a few points, he removed his glasses, pointed to one eye, and began making a loud hissing sound. Further into the piece, Sachs began to beat his chest and then switched to roaring out loud.

The piece ended quietly, with Sachs delivering a dramatic sigh. After riotous applause, Sachs gave an encore of another Henry Cowell piece in which he pounded the piano like a jackhammer, officially concluding a remarkable journey through contemporary music.

# Third Year Is the Charm for Super Cooper

## *Canadian Speed-Skater Turns Into NESCAC's Leading Scorer*

By David Lindholm
*Sports Editor*

Maybe you've seen him: the Panthers have the puck deep in their defensive zone, and number 11 is flying around the opposite blue line, eagerly awaiting the puck. Often one of the defensemen will find him with that perfect tape-to-tape pass and he'll turn, one-on-one with the other team's defenseman, and then it's over. A few quick moves and he's behind the defense, another flash and the puck is in the net. The fans in Kenyon Arena have almost come to expect this from Kevin Cooper '04, and yet every time it happens, the crowd is thrilled. Twice in this Saturday's game against Tufts, one last week against St. Michaels, and two against Norwich before that. He's found the net 21 times this season, leading the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) and 12th in the country.

Scoring was not Cooper's original goal on the ice, but skating fast was always a priority. Growing up in the Northwest Territories, he was originally a speed-skater, and didn't start playing hockey until after his ninth birthday. It proved to be a good base, and when his family moved to Mississauga, Ontario, Cooper began to play in the competitive Minor Leagues in Toronto.

About seven years later, now playing with the Mississauga Senators, the hockey coach at the New Hampton School in New Hampshire approached Cooper after a game.

"This coach came up to me, and said he liked me, and things just went from there," says Cooper. "I didn't know anything about private school before I went to New Hampton, coming from Canada. But I visited there and just loved the idea of hockey and school together, and I took a chance and went with it, and it was awesome." He started at New Hampton as a junior and had a great year in terms of hockey, and loved the coach, Brad Holt, who is a close friend of Bill Beaney's. Cooper learned about Middlebury, and was awe-struck when he came to Kenyon Arena to play the Middlebury JV team.

"I saw (Kenyon) and it was unbelievable, I was hooked on (the College) hockey-wise, and I heard about the academics here, and all that made me turn to Middlebury," he says. The combination of this and the promise of working with Beaney brought Cooper to choose the Panthers instead of Division 1 schools.

It didn't take long for Cooper to settle down at Middlebury, despite a tough first year. He needed to adjust to the speed of the college game and the system that the Panthers employed, but he did end up fourth on the team with 10 goals, and had 10 assists as the team made it to the National Quarterfinals. Sophomore year continued in the same pattern, as Cooper emerged as a star and led the team with a stunning 28 goals and 13 assists, including a hat-trick to win the NESCAC Championship. "I didn't know what Middlebury was going to be like," he said, "but I guess it's better than I could've hoped."

Kathrin Schwesinger

*Kevin Cooper '04 has been a driving force for the Panthers this season.*

This season has the potential to top even last year's outstanding season, when the team missed out on a bid for the National Championship with a 4-2 loss to archrival Norwich. "It's been unbelievable this year. Our team has just come together; we gelled really well. Our seniors have been great, like Rob Chisholm, the captain, is just a great leader. He knows what to say at the right time. And even our freshmen have stepped up big."

As for this year, Cooper knows that the team can go places. "If we come to play every night, like we can, there's no doubt about it. We'll be in the finals," he said with conviction. "I can tell, we have the talent this year. We have the team."

The greatest worry for this team is just that they won't play their best in one game, and Cooper knows the price for that. "Last year, against Norwich, we didn't come to play one night, and we're done." With the team almost assured a bid in the National tournament, the Panthers are likely going to get a chance for revenge against the Cadets. And does the pressure ever get to him?

"I don't really feel pressure to score goals," he said. "I know everyone talks about it, but I just try to play my role. I've learned a lot about how to play defense, and that's helped my offense. But I don't really care, you know, as long as we win."

# Women's Hockey Has Unfinished Business in Maine

*(continued from page 24)*

0 at 6:40.

Showcasing the young talent of the Panther squad, Gloria Velez '06 skated from the right side to the left side and quickly put the puck in the net with a low backhanded shot for the seventh goal of the game.

Mandigo says that he was expecting Velez and the rest of his first-year class to have as much of an impact as they have had. "We've counted on them and they have all done a tremendous job," he noted.

Another first-year player, Elizabeth Johnston, assisted on the ninth and final goal of the game at the 13:13 mark. She found Butler, who skated past the entire Amherst defense to pop the puck into the bottom corner of the net. Middlebury finished off the game with the same confidence they had started with, a confidence that deflated the Lord Jeffs.

Although the Amherst offense was still never able to settle the puck on offense, they were able to find a few openings, but Madouras managed to preserve her shutout.

The Panthers could not have asked for a better game going into this weekend's NESCAC semifinal game against Williams at Bowdoin on Saturday.

This is the same position the team found itself in last year, but this season they are coming off an electrifying win.

"Hopefully [the Amherst game] will help us score goals and move the puck through the neutral zone," Mandigo said. "We moved the puck so well and some people saw the ice very well. It was a good day overall."

The Panthers and the Ephs are well-matched teams: in their first meeting, Middlebury won 1-0, but the two teams battled to a 1-1 standstill in their second meeting.

Although they are not looking past Williams, the Panthers do know that if they win they could possibly play nationally-ranked and undefeated Bowdoin, who plays Colby in the other semifinal game, for the championship on Sunday.

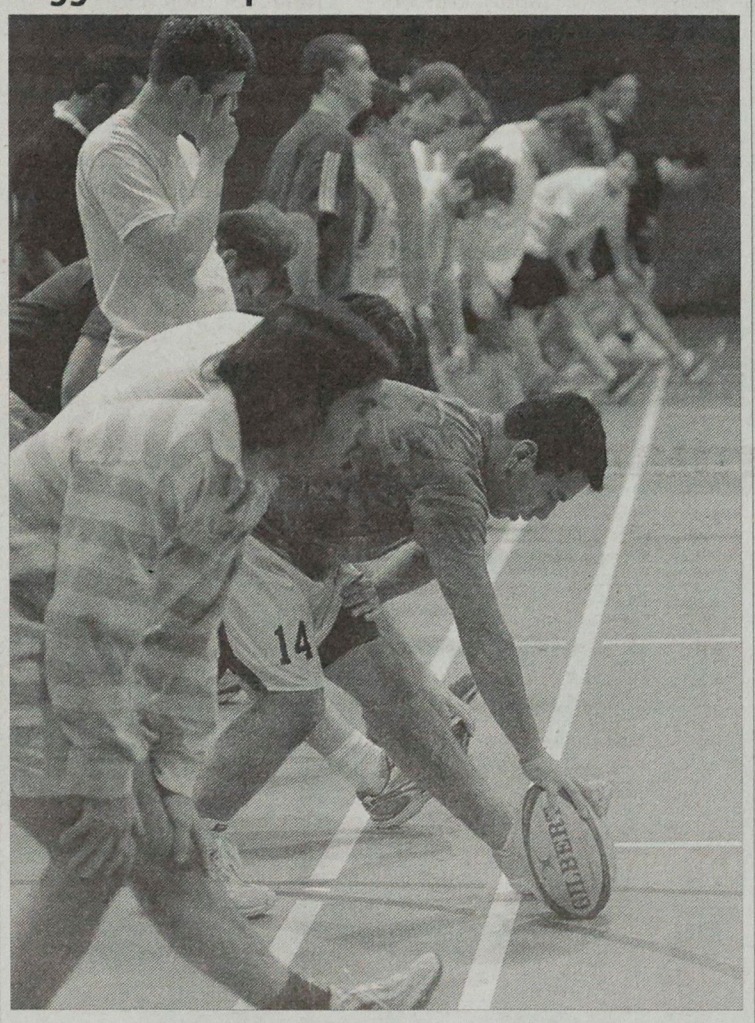
The Panthers and the Polar Bears tied both times they went head-to-head this season. Middlebury's upperclassmen also hold a grudge against Bowdoin, the team that knocked the Panthers out of the NCAA tournament last season.

"Bowdoin is excellent. They deserve to be ahead of us. I like our chances, though. Hopefully we will play them," said Mandigo.

And despite the fact that over half his team is underclassmen, he is not concerned. "I'm not worried about inexperience.

Our juniors and seniors are good leaders in the locker room and on the ice," and perhaps in thinking about the recent win, he added, "the way we approach the ice is with confidence."

## Ruggers Gear Up



Vlad Lodoaba

***The men's rugby team,*** *shown here practicing in Nelson, are getting ready to head to Nationals later this spring. The players can be seen around campus raising money for their trip.*

## Don't Miss...

### NESCAC Championships: Men's Hockey

Saturday, March 8th-Sunday, March 9th

### What to Watch in Middlebury Sports

**Semifinal Matchup #1: (Sat., 1:00 p.m.)**

**#1 Middlebury vs. #5 Hamilton**

**Top-ranked Middlebury is riding a 19-game undefeated streak and it doesn't look like anyone can stop the Panthers anytime soon. Coming off a high-energy 7-1 win against Tufts in the quarterfinals, the Panthers will be looking to take the next step in grabbing their fourth consecutive NESCAC Championship Title. Earlier in the season, the Panthers prevailed at Hamilton, overcoming the Continentals (14-9-2) by a score of 7-4.**

**Semifinal Matchup #2: (Sat., 4:00 p.m.)**

**#2 Trinity vs. #3 Colby**

**Championship Game: (Sun., 1:00 p.m.)**

**The winners of the two semifinal games will go head-to-head for the crown.**

# *Eye on College Sports*

**By David Lindholm**
Sports Editor

At every one of her games this season, Toni Smith, a senior sociology major and forward on the women's basketball team at Manhattanville University, turned 90 degrees away from the American flag in protest during the singing of the National Anthem. The media picked up the story, and since then people all over the country have been discussing her methods and also her reasons for protesting. But her demonstration has reopened the heated discussion of whether or not the athletic field is an appropriate forum for protest. Also, she is forcing everyone, and especially student-athletes, to reconsider (or consider for the first time) their own ideas about the flag.

We don't know if Smith's protest was started in order to earn attention for herself or her school or if it was instead a silent, personal decision not to stand in conformity and complacency in front of a symbol which she does not believe accurately reflects her beliefs, or a mixture of the two sentiments. Athletes are not void of opinions, and they have the power, through their exposure, to have their voices heard above many. In this regard, athletes represent the beliefs of many who are unable, not willing, or afraid to speak out, and also those who try to affect the public conscience but are ignored. In this sense everyone should take pride in Smith's demonstration, as it fosters conversation about issues in the true democratic spirit.

Another question that Smith has brought into the public consciousness is the issue of Nationalism in sports. What role does the American flag actually play in athletic events? It is a tradition that all of us grew up with, and until now, may have never questioned. Why do we sing the National Anthem before games, when we don't before concerts or other forms of entertainment? It's simply nationalism, and for my entire life I've accepted the fact that before games I should show my patriotism by facing the flag and honoring the country. Toni Smith finally thought about it, took a look at the flag, and decided that it stood for too many things that she did not agree with.

The American flag represents so many different things to people, including a history of democracy and free speech, but also a past that includes horrific injustices that are carried into the present day. Smith has caused us to look at that flag and question what it represents to each one of us, and analyze what this country stands for. In the interest of free and critical thinking, she has given us new perspective, with the hope of improving the country. For that she has proven herself patriotic in the way all Americans should be, and we owe her a debt of gratitude.

# Trans-World Video Tour Hits Midd

By Peter Yordan
*Assistant Sports Editor*

Middlebury ski bums got a rare chance to see brand new ski video material this weekend with the arrival on campus of the Trans-World Undeclared Film Tour. The sponsor-laden tour, in the midst of a 50-college national circuit, allowed students to catch a free showing of high end stunt snowboarding and free skiing stars on a host of different mountains across North America in a joint production between Mack Dog and Poor Boyz Productions. A good turnout of students were on hand to watch the movie, which promised to feature many of the nation's best trick artists pushing the limits of bodily harm with each new hair-raising trick. Unfortunately, Undeclared quickly bogs down into an endless series of jumps and grinds, which when taken singly are impressive, but en masse prove to be overkill.

> The sponsor-laden tour allowed students to catch a free showing of high end stunt snowboarding and free skiing stars on a host of different mountains.

The film begins with a credibility-killing intro by ESPN's perennially lame Sal Masakela. Luckily, he goes away quickly, replaced by the first half of the film by snowboarding director Mike McEntire's Mack Dog Productions. Lining up such reputable riders as Jeremy Jones, Shaun White, Keir Dillon, Devun Walsh and J.F. Pelchat, McEntire strings along an endless series of big air jumps and grinds, showing off his brand of "New School" snowboarding, which is a lot like old school snowboarding, except more "extreme." Note to Mack Dog, "new" is out these days—get with the retro craze, slap some old Dr. J jerseys on those riders and get them out on some old school powder lines instead of grinding on stair rails with summery grass landings.

Many of the moves are indeed spectacular, with the riders regularly catching over fifty feet of air, both on-mountain and in terrain parks. The riders show endless creativity and bravado in finding obstacles to trick off of, jumping up on chimneys, water towers, roofs and grinding on whatever pieces of exposed metal they can get their hands on.

Masakela comes back to switch things over to freestyle skiing, once again doing his best to suck the oxygen from the room, just like he does every year at the X-games. This time relief comes from Director Jim DeCesare and his Poor Boyz Productions. The stunts from such twin-tippers as Tanner Hall, Jon Olsson, C.R. Johnson, Evan Raps, Shane Szocs, J.F. Cusson and Mike Douglas look eerily similar to those we've just seen from the riders. We quickly realize that much of the action takes place in the same spots as the first half of the film. Sadly, once again there are almost no T.J. Burke-worthy backcountry powder runs from the skiers, who confine themselves to near hip-breaking leaps and slides punctuated by occasionally spectacular crashes.

Perhaps the most memorable stunt of the movie comes from a series of on-mountain jumps over a huge, gaping chasm up on to the top of a cornice ledge on the other side. One of the skiers doesn't reach the landing, splattering himself with a full-frontal impact into the cornice face as the audience groans in unison. Despite the ever-increasing parity between skiers and snowboarders in every field of the sport, it is doubtful that snowboaders will ever be able to match the sheer bone-crunching, equipment-strewing mayhem of a skier crashing.

The movie lacks the restrained elegance of the best Warren Miller films, instead choosing to pummel its audience with rapid fire editing and an endless barrage of different riders. The music is the standard weak ski film fare, with a selection of songs so obnoxious and eclectic that it is bound to disappoint anyone's tastes. Eventually, what hurts the film is its uniformity. "The film was good, it just got too repetitive by the end," said snowboard aficionado Cory Lowe '04, echoing the general sentiment of the audience. "They just kept doing the same things over and over." The best ski films change pace to keep their audience engaged by switching between Big Mountain and freestyle. Trans-World's piece goes on about 20 minutes too long, lagging especially during the stair rail sliding segment, where rider after rider takes his turn on near identical stairs. As anyone who has tried it can attest, these are hard and risky stunts, but they tend to lose their visual appeal rather quickly.

Freestyle skiing and boarding seem to fast be hitting the limit of physically possible tricks. Like diving or figure skating, there are only so many spins a person can do while in the air. If films like the Trans World Undeclared Tour are going to stay in business, they are going to have to start changing their approach.

## Spring Sports Get Moving

Kathrin Schwesinger

*On Saturday, the men's lacrosse team took to the turf for the first time this season for a scrimmage. The first official game is this Saturday.*

# Hamilton on Horizon for Men's Hockey

*(continued from page 24)*

Trinity needed overtime to oust Williams by 3-2 in its quarterfinal, while Colby had no problems in an 11-0 destruction of Amherst. Middlebury won its only regular season game against Hamilton on Feb. 7 by a score of 7-4. The Panthers also triumphed against Colby (5-1) and Trinity (4-2) in the regular season. The NESCAC finals will be played on Sunday, March 9 at 1:00 p.m. at Kenyon Arena.

"I think on Saturday we saw what things we are doing well at this point and also some things we need to work on," commented Chisholm.

"We'll spend this week in practice trying to iron out some of the problems we saw on Saturday to get us ready for Hamilton. Hamilton played us very tough last time we played them. They are the most physical team in our league, and we'll have to be prepared for a battle this Saturday. I don't think any of us were happy with how we played at Hamilton this year and so we'll be looking to make up for that with this second opportunity to play them. I look forward to a really tough, exciting and close game against a good team on Saturday."

Vlad Lodoaba

*Ryan Cahill '06 splits two defenders in Saturday's NESCAC 7-1 quarterfinal win against Tufts.*

# Indoor Track and Field Sprints to the Finish

By Erich Kahner
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury men and women's track and field teams competed at the New England Division III and the New England Open Championships over the past two weekends. At the Division III championships, held on Feb. 21-22, the Panthers produced nine all-New England performers. In the process, three school records fell, and the women's Distance Medley Relay (DMR) guaranteed their spot at the national championships on March 14 at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind.

The DMR, comprised of Jess Manzer '05, Maryanne Porter '04, Adri Logalbo '03 and Michela Adrian '03, surpassed the automatic qualifying standard for the NCAA Division III championships (12:08), set a new school record (12:01.32) and a Mt. Ararat Fieldhouse record en route to a victory. They shaved 12 seconds off of their previous season best, and beat the second-place host, Bowdoin, by 30 meters. The foursome earned all-New England titles for their effort.

With their trip to Nationals now insured, the athletes feel free from the pressure of qualifying, "It's such a good feeling to know that in three weeks we will be competing in Nationals," said Logalbo. "We have a lot more left in us, and I think we all know what the next goal is: to leave it all in Indiana."

Many individual performances earned athletes All-New England honors. Manzer and Logalbo had top eight finishes, meeting the criteria for All-New England credit by placing third (2:18.48) and seventh (2:20.11) in the 800-meter dash. Porter placed second in the 600 meter dash (1:39.79). Adrian had a sixth place finish in the 1,500 (4:44.39) and Jess Kosciewicz '04 was eighth in the 55 meter dash (7.77 seconds).

> It's such a good feeling to know that in three weeks we will be competing in Nationals. We have a lot more left in us, and I think we all know what the next goal is: to leave it all in Indiana.
>
> —Captain Adrianna Logalbo '03

All these athletes combined for 30 points and a 12th place team finish. Williams won the team title with a tally of 174.5.

The men also had success during their meet at the Massachusettes Institute of Techonology. The sprint squad produced three All-New England athletes. Captain Mike DeLeo '03.5 set a new personal record and placed seventh in the 55-meter dash (6.70). Liam Aiello '05 also bested his old personal record with a seventh place run in the 200-meter (23.51), and Kevin Bright '06 made the All-New England team in his first season by finishing 5th in the 400 meter (50.98).

Other performances of note were the two record-breaking performances in the men's distance events. Nick Digani '05 lowered his own indoor school record — set last week at Tufts — by over a second in the 1500 meter. Digani ran a 4:07.16, which translates roughly into a 4:26 mile.

The 4x800 meter relay, made up of Marty Wesolowski '03, Mike Mazzota '03, Matt Horesta '06 and Digani, knocked 5 seconds off of the old indoor record with their time of 8:18.5.

Last weekend the teams faced stronger competition at the Open New England Championships. No athletes placed in the top eight, but there were still outstanding performances.

Bright broke the 50 second barrier in the 400-meter dash, lowering his own school record to 49.94. He placed 13th and bested many seasoned Division I and II athletes, as well as his Division III counterparts.

"We're really excited about Kevin breaking the big 50," remarked head coach Martin Beatty about Bright's race.

Manzer and Logalbo continued to lower their 800 meter marks by running 2:17.75 and 2:18.68 respectively. Manzer finished one spot out of All-New England honors with her ninth place effort, while Logalbo captured 13th.

The women's 4x200 meter relay team, made up of Jess Kosciewicz '04, Shena James '06, Kirsten Nagel '06 and Sarah Berkowitz '05, set a new school record with a time of 1:52.73. The teams travel to Tufts next weekend for the Eastern Coast Athletic Championships. This meet offers the final opportunity for athletes to qualify for Nationals. Manzer and Logalbo are extremely close. They need to chop off a second or two from their season bests to surpass the provisional mark of 2:16.2.

Schuyler Van Horn

*The indoor track team finished their season over the past two weekends with the Division III and Open New England Championships.*

# Short-Handed Swimmers Slip to Fourth

By David Freedman
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury men's swimming and diving team earned a fourth place finish this past weekend at the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championships. The Panthers, who only had 22 swimmers to bring to the meet out of the allotted 24, fought hard with a squad full of young talent and only three seniors.

Head Coach Peter Solomon said, "I couldn't have been happier with how well each and every swimmer performed. Their time drops are what all coaches hope for in a season." By the end of the three-day competition Middlebury's swim team saw three varsity records fall, one meet record set, and seven NCAA qualifying times achieved.

Rob Hillas '06 surprised most of the field with a 29-second drop in the 1000-meter freestyle for a Panther record, a personal best and fifth place in the conference. In the 1,650 meter freestyle Hillas knocked off another 49 seconds from his personal best to finish fifth again and set yet another varsity record. Alex Demas '06 put his name on the map with a second place finish in the 200-meter breast and a third place finish in the 400-meter Individual Medley (IM), with NCAA qualifying standards in both races. Austin Krissoff '06 got personal best times in all his events by placing sixth in the 500-meter free and third in the 200-meter free. Jamie Lamere '06 swam just as well as his classmates by taking eighth place in the 1000-meter free, 10th in the 500-meter free, and 11th in the 1,650-meter free. Jon Ellis '06 broke the two-minute mark in the 200-meter fly for the first time in his career. Scott Atkinson '06 proved to be the only true sprinter in the Class of 2006.

In the first event of the weekend, the 200-meter Free Relay, Atkinson posted a 20.9 to anchor Middlebury's relay squad. In the last event of the meet, Atkinson finished just as fast with a lifetime best 46.8 second split. With the youth of the team swimming well, Solomon and the Middlebury athletic community have plenty of reason to feel confident about this team's future.

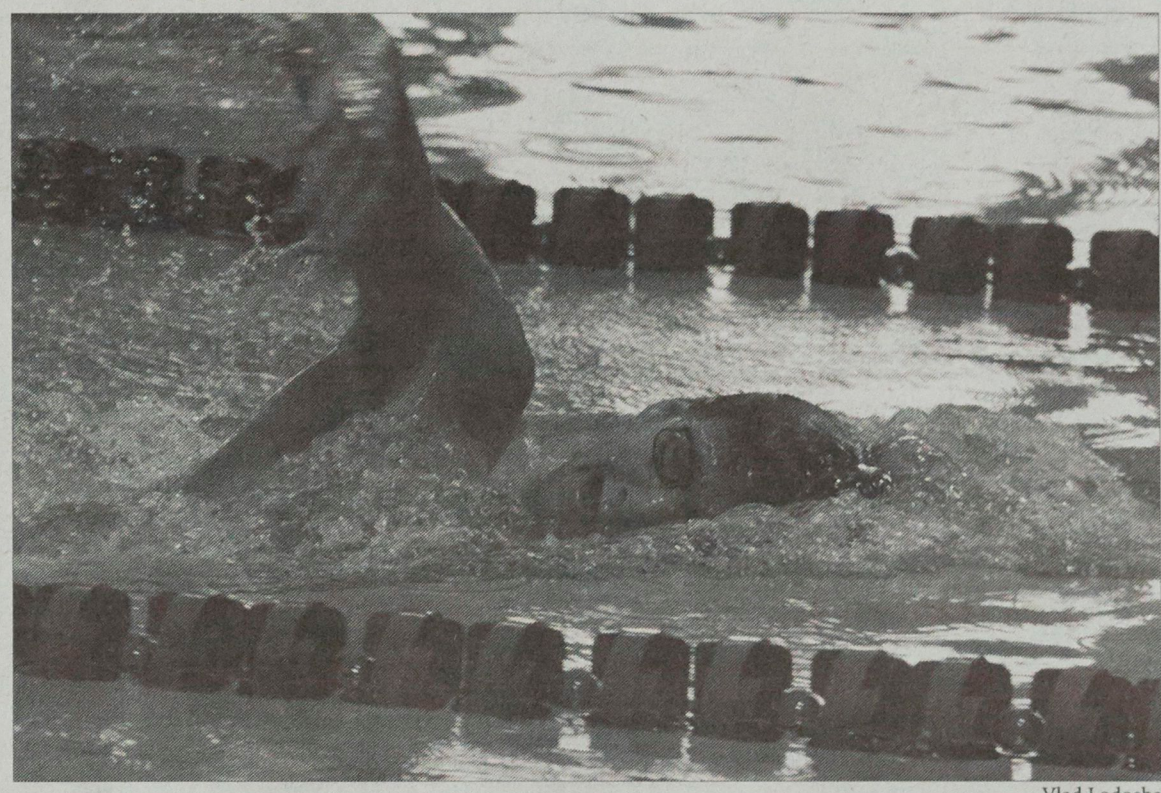
Solomon, however, credits the leadership and effort of the three senior captains for the team's success. "Andrew Sterling, Ricky Barfuss and Stephen Kinney took the lead early in the season and finished their swimming careers on fine notes."

Kinney became the conference champion in the 100-meter IM and set a meet record in the event; he finished second in the 50-meter Breast as well. In the 200-meter medley relay, Kinney had a split of 25.6 seconds in the 50-meter breast, becoming the only swimmer in the meet to get under the 26 second mark. Barfuss saved his best times of the season for last as well by placing ninth in the 50-meter back, seventh in the 100-meter fly, and 19th in the 100-meter free. He anchored the 800 free relay squad that was later to be disqualified, but in the final race of his career he led off the 400-meter freestyle relay with a time of 47.99 seconds. Sterling got back to old form early in the weekend by dropping 11 seconds in the 500-meter free and placing 12th amidst his first-year teammates in that event who placed sixth, ninth, 10th, and 13th. Later in the weekend, Sterling qualified ninth in the 1000-meter free, and saved one last walk up to the podium with his eighth place finish in the 1,650-meter freestyle.

"To watch the weekend unfold the way it did seems like a dream at times," Solomon said. "I'm so proud of the team's effort and attitude all weekend."

**The Stats Page...**

**which lists every team's schedules and results, will be returning next week with upcoming and exciting information about your favorite spring teams. Check up on the Panthers on the last page of the sports section every week.**



Vlad Lodoaba

*The men's swim team recorded a fourth-place finish in the NESCAC Championships this weekend.*

| Men's Sports | |
|---|---|
| Ice Hockey vs. Hamilton (NESCAC semis) | March 8 |
| Tennis vs. Skidmore / Union | March 8 |
| Lacrosse vs. New England College | March 8 |

The Campus Sports

| Women's Sports | |
|---|---|
| Ice Hockey vs. Williams (@ Bowdoin) | March 8 |
| Lacrosse vs. Colby | March 15 |



# Women's Hockey Bulldozes Amherst, NESCAC Semi's Next

By Kate Nerenberg
*Sports Editor*

Taking the ice in the unfamiliar position of second place in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) standings, the Middlebury women's hockey team left no doubts that it is a force to reckon with. Garnering possession of the puck for virtually the entire game, the Panthers dominated Amherst in the first round of the NESCAC Championships. Not only did goalkeeper Kati Madouras '04 register a shutout for the afternoon, the Panthers allowed the Lord Jeffs only six looks at goal. On the other hand, Middlebury was unstoppable: its 47 attempts led to nine goals for the game.

**Women's Hockey**

*Saturday, March 1st*

| | |
|---|---|
| Middlebury | 9 |
| Amherst | 0 |

"Our players were so excited," commented Head Coach Bill Mandigo. "It was a home playoff game. The outcome wasn't what we wanted last year, so I think the older players wanted to make amends for that," he added in reference to last season's semifinal loss to Williams when Middlebury was ranked first and hosted the second weekend of the tournament.

The Panthers did not waste any time showing the crowd of 650 that they were more than excited and ready to make waves in this season's tournament. After just 28 seconds, co-captain Angela Kapus '03, assisted by Kristin Reid '04, scored her 17th goal of the season and set the pace for the remainder of the game.

For the next four minutes, the Panthers continued to pound the puck at goal and remained in their offensive zone, one result of a new system Mandigo instituted three weeks ago. Using defensive pushes from Jen Yerigan '06, Jackie Cohen '05 and Jean Butler '04, Amherst's only option was to collapse in front of their goal to stave off the Middlebury offensive forces. These forces limited the Lord Jeffs to few opportunities to score.

Their one chance in the first period came off a strong shot by Renee Sisti from the left side. However, with lightning-quick speed, Madouras deflected the puck and her defense quickly gathered it up before any purple jerseys could get a second look.

Despite the Panthers' continuous pounding on goal, including three shots in a 20-second period, they were only able to convert once more in the first session.

In the last two minutes, the Lord Jeff goalkeeper came out of the crease, causing confusion and a desperate scramble for the puck. Emily Quizon '06 out-hustled the rest of the Amherst defense and came up with the puck behind the goal.

With a few quick strides, Quizon found the back right corner of the net from the left side of the crease. At the close of the first period, the Panthers had out-shot Amherst, 23-1.

As the game progressed, the Panthers continued to dominate. Playing with a strong sense of urgency, the Panthers used crisp, clean passes to move the puck through and around the seemingly stationary Amherst defense. Middlebury simply worked harder than their opponent. Every attempt by the Amherst defense to clear the puck out was easily stifled by the superior Panther work force.

This hard work paid off for Butler, who found herself in front of the goal at the 5:43 mark. After patiently working the puck around, Quizon fed Butler, who scored with a quick flick of her wrist. Middlebury kept the pace at a high level with continuous movement on offense, tiring out the Amherst defense.

Just before the midway point of the second period, Yerigan's shot from the right side was deflected. However, white jerseys swarmed the puck and Erin Neil '03 burned a hole in the back of the net with a left-handed shot at 9:54.

Middlebury had the puck in their offensive zone for so much of the second period that Amherst was not able to register their second shot of the game until the last five minutes.

In the last minute, with textbook-like offense and tactful stick handling, co-captain Audrey Pellerin's '03 rebound was put back by Hannah DeLong '06 to put the Panthers up 5-0.

Kathrin Schwesinger

*Erin Neil '03 and Gloria Velez '06 (right) skate through the Amherst defense in the Panthers' easy 9-0 victory on Saturday.*

In the last period, the Panthers started to show only slight signs of fatigue but still managed to post four more goals. Despite their tired legs, the Panthers kept the Lord Jeffs moving with a quick transition and incessant movement on the offensive end. From behind the net, Kapus fed Reid on the left side, who used a right-handed shot to the far side of the goal and put her team up 6-

*(see Women's Hockey, page 21)*

# Hockey Juggernaut Keeps on Rolling

By Andreas Apostolatos
*Staff Writer*

After finishing the regular season with an 18-game undefeated streak, the Middlebury men's hockey team started off the postseason on an equally dominant note with a 7-1 rout of eighth-seeded Tufts in the opening round of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) tournament on Saturday. In the semifinal round scheduled for Sat., March 8, the number one seeded Panthers will face Hamilton, who managed a 6-3 upset of fourth-seeded Bowdoin.

**Men's Hockey**

*Saturday, March 1st*

| | |
|---|---|
| Middlebury | 7 |
| Tufts | 1 |

"We were happy with how we played in the first two periods on Saturday but were disappointed we didn't finish the game on a high note," said Team Captain Rob Chisholm '03. "It was good for us to put a few pucks in the net and get feeling good about where we are but I'm sure everyone on the team is aware that the teams we will face from now on will prove a greater challenge for us than Tufts."

Vlad Lodoaba

*Pat Nugent '05 and Jeff Smith '06 looked on as their teammates took care of Tufts in the NESCAC quarterfinals.*

Middlebury started strong and never let up in its quarterfinal bout with last-place Tufts. The Panthers scored six goals before the Jumbos managed to notch a point on the scoreboard. First-year forward Tim Schneider scored a hat trick and had an assist, while Kevin Cooper '04 added two goals and two assists of his own. Schneider and Cooper lead Middlebury with a remarkable 35 points a piece through the regular season and first round of the NESCAC tournament.

The Panthers struck first on Schneider's goal with 13:28 remaining in the first period. Cooper then added his first goal of the contest during a power play with 48 seconds to play in the period.

In the second, Middlebury turned it up a notch, while Tufts simply seemed to give up. A testimony to the Panthers' all-out dominance of Tufts was their ability to hold the Jumbos to a total of 14 shots on goal for the entire game. Middlebury, by contrast, put Tufts goaltenders Ben Crapser and Matt Ninneman fast at work with 45 shots on target. Middlebury's scoring arsenal in the second period consisted of four goals, which, needless to say, gave the 2,032 fans in Kenyon Arena reason to stay on their feet.

Sophomore defenseman Brian Phinney commenced the stretch with a goal just 32 seconds into the period. Cooper then notched his second goal four minutes later during another Tufts power play. Assistant Captain Adam Foote '04 then gathered two consecutive assists as he found Schneider for his second goal at the 9:47 mark and Chisholm with 7:52 remaining in the second period. Tufts faced a 6-0 deficit going into the final 20 minutes.

In the game's final period the Jumbos did manage to escape a blowout with a goal by Adam Delaney-Winn with 15:26 to play. The Panthers pushed their lead back up to six when Schneider scored his third and final goal of the contest with 8:21 left. Panther fans left the game with their fill of goals and another date at Kenyon Arena this weekend.

Middlebury will face Hamilton this Saturday in its semifinal match scheduled for 1:00 p.m. In the other semifinal at 4:00 p.m. Trinity meets Colby in what should be a highly contested bid for the finals. Second-seeded

*(see Hamilton, page 22)*